

# World Teacher – Other World Style Education & Agent [WN]

Arc 16: Encounter

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Epub: [Trollo WN/LN EPUB](#)

## Chapter 110 – The Third

We went through the main road, and we got off the road by Fia's guidance. Now, we were in a forest without a road.

We would definitely not be able to proceed with the carriage, so we got off and properly hid it.

We brought as little luggage as possible, and since Hokuto carried the more heavy luggage, we were able to move without problems.

More than anything, since we had a person who lived in a forest, Fia, there was no need to worry about getting lost.

While defeating monsters that occasionally attacked us, two days passed after travelling in the forest with her guidance, and then... we arrived at a river that stretched across the forest.

There were no trees growing nearby the river and since the view was good, we decided to take a break here.

As we did our respective tasks during the break, Fia sat on a nearby rock and turned a smile on me.

"You see, Sirius. Do you remember this place?" (Fia)

"Aah, was it here? It's nostalgic." (Sirius)

This place was where Fia and I talked about each other's abilities and became friends.

It had been almost ten years since then... time had gone by so fast.

Although I recently met with Fia, it felt like we were a couple for years.

"It feels somewhat strange. Even though half a year hasn't passed since I met you, I feel like I was with you for years. It is evidence that I had fun spending the days." (Fia)

"What a coincidence. I also agree with you." (Sirius)

“Hehe, well, it’s our lives from this moment on.” (Fia)

When I noticed, Emilia and Reese were curiously looking at us.

“Aah... Sorry. I left everyone behind.” (Fia)

“No, I think that it is unavoidable to be immersed in memories. It will be even more if it was with Sirius-sama, right?” (Emilia)

“Did Sirius-san and Fia-san meet here?” (Reese)

“To be accurate, it was in this forest and this place here was where we talked about our secrets.” (Sirius)

And then, Fia talked about our encounter with Emilia and Reese.

I had already told them to a certain extent, but it was different when we were in the actual spot.

Fia happily talked about the time she was impressed by flying in the sky, how she could see magic and my peculiar magic.

“I was amazed while looking at Sirius’ back when he easily defeated a wyvern here, and I grew attached to him.” (Fia)

“I understand that! The time when I met Sirius-sama... I can’t forget his back when he jumped in.” (Emilia)

“M-me too... I can’t forget the appearance that came to help me when I was about to get married and in the labyrinth.” (Reese)

“So, I wasn’t the only one who felt his great power. It seems that everyone would fall in love with Sirius when you notice that.” (Fia)

I listened to their love talks while boiling hot water, and Reus, who sat next to me, was curiously asking.

“Hey, Aniki. When you met Fia-ane for the first time, what did you think about her?” (Reus)

“Hmm... I thought that she was beautiful, but since I was a child at that time, I didn’t think something like lovers.” (Sirius)

“Is that so... I am probably having a similar feeling.” (Reus)

“...Similar?” (Sirius)

“No, I understood Marina’s and Noir’s feelings, but I recently noticed that I was in love with Noel-nee when I lived in that mansion.” (Reus)

“What?” (Sirius)

The shocking fact came out here.

When I tried to remember... he probably liked her but not as a real sister. However, Reus didn’t show any hint at all. It seemed that we didn’t even realize it because the person himself also didn’t notice.

“If that’s the case, what did you think when Noel married Dee? Was it frustrating?” (Sirius)

“There is no such thing. I thought that I wanted Noel-nee and Dee-nii to be tied in marriage, so when they got married, I was happy and I didn’t feel anything else.” (Reus)

It seemed to be a complicated situation, but in other words, Reus didn’t only like Noel, he also liked Dee. Although the person himself wasn’t aware about the unrequited love, he didn’t feel depressed because he was clueless about love.

I guessed that it was all good, since Reus didn’t feel jealous.

No... wait a sec.

If Reus tasted jealousy and heartbreak, he might not have been raised to be such an air-headed man.

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

“ ...There, there.” (Sirius)

Well, it couldn’t be helped to think about it now.

Now he had Marina and Noir, it was probably going to be alright because he grew up to the extent of noticing such feelings.

For the time being, let’s calm down by stroking the approaching Hokuto.

—

After we kept walking through forest for several days, we finally arrived at our destination.

The dense forest suddenly disappeared. There was no doubt that this place with grassland spread was where I parted from Fia ten years ago.

“Eh? Why did the trees suddenly disappear?” (Reus)

“You’re right. What a strange grassland.” (Emilia)

“This place is under the influence of the forest that covers the village. There is my hometown in the depth of the forest that can be seen over there.” (Fia)

Beyond the grassland pointed by Fia, we could see a forest that created a clearly different atmosphere than the forest we’d been through.

It certainly sensed intruders in that forest instantaneously, and it was said that a barrier was made to make people other than the Elves to stray away.

Even if I used [Search], the response was dull maybe because of the barrier’s influence. Whether the mana always flowed in the forest, the reflection wave of mana didn’t accurately return.

Well, I also learned to perceive presence without relying on [Search] and since there was no plan to enter the forest, there should be no problem.

“I also thought this at that time, but it is a truly mysterious forest.” (Sirius)

“It’s fine if we don’t enter the forest, right?” (Emilia)

“Yeah. You will not only get lost when entering the forest, but you will also immediately get attacked. I think if you can’t hear my voice, absolutely do not enter.” (Fia)

“Sirius-san and Fia-san can fly, right? Can’t you enter the forest from the sky?” (Reese)

“It is impossible to see the village because of the many trees that will get in the way. Actually, I tried it before.” (Fia)

“What a troublesome forest. So, what are you going to do from now on, Fia-ane?” (Reus)

“I will have my voice delivered by the Spirit. I was thinking to have my dad

come to the entrance of the forest, but..." (Fia)

Fia was seen by an Elder Elf, a higher rank of Elves, and she ran away because she had to marry him.

In other words, she was also a criminal in her hometown, and it seemed that there was some hesitation to call up her relatives.

"Well, there is no need to decide in a hurry. Today is already late, so we will camp here. Please think about it in the meantime." (Sirius)

I looked up at the sky and the sun started to set. It was about time to start preparing for the camp.

If she made a call now, the response would be later at night. Hence, we probably should take a rest today.

There was a possibility of our companions being attacked when Fia called her father. If by chance that would happen, then, I had to think about the possibility of escaping.

"Yes, I will decide by tomorrow. I'm sorry, everyone. If possible, I would like to invite and welcome you to my home, but Elves are very strict to outsiders. Moreover, I am not able to enter the forest right now." (Fia)

"You don't have to worry about us. Besides, we understand the feelings where the safety of family becomes a matter of concern." (Emilia)

"There was a variety scenery until we came here, so we're glad to be here." (Reese)

"Hehe... thanks." (Fia)

"Well then, shall we start working?" (Sirius)

Everyone nodded at my words. After unloading the camping equipment that was on Hokuto's back, we decided to divide the labor.

"I saw a delicious-looking bird on the way here... is it still there?" (Reus)

"There is no river, but the Spirits are active. Are the trees holding water?" (Reese)

"You can put it in that way." (Fia)

“I wonder if this much is alright.” (Reese)

“Sirius-sama, which one would you like to use today?” (Emilia)

Reus re-entered the forest that we came through. In the meantime, Reese poured water into a portable bathtub, which would be used for cooking and cleaning.

We set up the tent that had been assembled many times with the remaining members, and then, we started preparing for cooking.

After that, we completed our respective tasks, finished the meals, decided the order of night watch and lastly, we went to bed.

I didn't think that there was a meaning for night watch because of Hokuto, who was highly sensitive, but if there was no specific reason, we still did it on rotations. Moreover, it was probably not good to take advantage of Hokuto.

“Well, I'm going to sleep first, Aniki.” (Reus)

“Sure, good night.” (Sirius)

When I took the turn from Reus who had been watching until just now and sat down before the bonfire, Hokuto, who was sleeping in front of the tent, came close to my back and lied down. When I was on a night watch, this cute partner of mine never failed to become my backrest just like this.

While stroking Hokuto, I reflexively looked at the night sky where the stars shone.

“The brightness of the stars is the same whether it is in a different world... right? But the place is totally different.” (Sirius)

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

“Aah, it's not like I feel lonely. I just missed the constellations a bit.” (Sirius)

“Hehe, the stars are beautiful...” (Fia)

Other than the constellations, I was also concerned about the disciples I left behind, but as I threw some firewood into the bonfire to divert the subject, Fia came out of the tent.

Fia's turn was after mine, but it seemed that she had something to talk about

by judging from her appearance. When I beckoned, Fia came next to me with a smile.

“I’m sorry, Hokuto. I will rely on your body for a bit.” (Fia)

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

I was wondering whether she got permission from Hokuto when she sat next to me, and she put her head on my shoulder after clinging to my right arm.

Since she occasionally came to me with this kind of skinship, I had somewhat understood that she wanted something. When I moved my right arm around Fia’s shoulder and brought her closer, she happily laughed while rubbing against my cheek.

“Hehe... yeah. As expected, I feel better when you do this.” (Fia)

“Well, do you have something to say?” (Sirius)

“Yeah... I wonder if there’s nothing different.” (Fia)

“Oi.” (Sirius)

“It’s a joke. It’s just a bit, but... it feels disturbing.” (Fia)

She gradually became sentimental when talking.

Although it was possible to escape from the village with the assistance of her father, was he safe after that?

She was concerned about leaving, since she couldn’t say much during their parting.

“Tou-san is also the head of the village, and he is in a bad situation because he let me run away.” (Fia)

I understood that her father loved Fia from the point of letting her escape from the Elder Elf, who was a higher rank of the Elves.

It was just that... when calling her father, who was safe, it felt empty when considering the possibility of being attacked because of her father’s standpoint.

“Which is why I could never have married an Elder Elf...” (Fia)

“That’s just like you.” (Sirius)



“Besides, it is fun to travel with you, so I don’t regret running away from the village.” (Fia)

“...Is that so?” (Sirius)

Since this was just a matter of feelings, it was something she could do nothing about, but to accept it.

Therefore, I became a listener without interposing as much as possible, and I stroked her head with my arm that was on her shoulder, just to make her feel relieved, even a little.

“The Elves are a long-lived race, but the birth rate is low. Since it is difficult to see grandchildren, I am thinking of showing our children to him. However... by the time I can openly enter the village, you will not be by my side.” (Fia)

“I also want to properly meet your father, but things don’t always go the way we want.” (Sirius)

Fia’s nature of offense would cause a hundred years banishment from the village, and by the time it was cleared, I definitely would not be alive anymore. It would be impossible to bring children and greet him.

Thereupon, she complained about the Elder Elves for a while, and then, it derailed to the part where she wanted a boy. Fia kept talking until she looked satisfied.

“Haa... It feels refreshing.” (Fia)

“I’m glad. By the way, have you decided what to do tomorrow?” (Sirius)

“Yes, I have. I was hesitating a lot, but if I can confirm Tou-san’s safety, I don’t have to call him to come out.” (Fia)

It was fine because she had decided. So, I silently brought her closer.

Well, the time to alternate the night watch was approaching, but...

“Is it alright if you are not sleeping, Fia? The time to alternate the night watch is not there yet.” (Sirius)

“Yeah... I’m getting sleepy, since I feel at ease. I will take a light sleep, so please wake me up when my turn comes.” (Fia)

“Understood. You should sleep now.” (Sirius)

“Yeah... thanks.” (Fia)

Since Fia was tired due to the continuous walking today and various things which had been held inside were resolved, she soon started to sleep.

Without waking Fia, who showed an innocent sleeping face while I still embraced her, I threw another firewood to the bonfire and stroked Hokuto.

“The night watch is extended. Hokuto, you have to stay with me for a while.” (Sirius)

“Woof.” (Hokuto)

—

There was a time where the envious Emilia bit my shoulder because Fia slept beside me, and on the next day, we had breakfast once everyone woke up.

This morning, breakfast was a stewed soup put with various wild plants and spices, and there were three small breads per person.

After everyone finishing setting up the table, as I signaled the start of the breakfast, Reus noticed that his bread was decreasing by one.

“...Eh? That’s weird. There were three just now... is it you, Aniki!?’ (Reus)

It was a little late, but Reus noticed that I had four breads.

I took the opportunity and stole it from Reus, but I didn’t mean to eat it and I didn’t have any bad intentions.

This was a part of the new training for Reus.

“You’re being careless. You left it unattended.” (Sirius)

“Dang it... it’s difficult.” (Reus)

Although this was during mealtime, it was a training to act with minimum warnings and signs.

Of course, he would always feel tired if he kept focusing his mind, but what I wanted to say was, this was something similar to a feeling of a thin skin where he needed to sense one step ahead before the action materialized.

And he needed to remember it with his body.

“If you get used to this, you will be able to protect yourself, even while you are sleeping. It’s fine to take it slow, and you will definitely learn it later.”  
(Sirius)

Although it was a considerably unreasonable thing from the view of an ordinary person, this was the reason how I survived again and again.

Eventually, he would be able to react to hostile enemies who were approaching him even when he was unconscious. Therefore, he would be likely to intercept with defense.

Besides, I was still the nice one. Anyhow, Shishou didn’t only target my meals, she also aimed with a gun filled with rubber bullets. Even though I had reincarnated, I still couldn’t forget the pain when I got shot while I was slowly taking a bath.

I tried to return the bread after telling Reus various things, but he shook his head and refused.

“No, I will give up that bread, Aniki. I was careless, so I am no good if I don’t sharpen my senses.” (Reus)

“If you say so. But, I don’t need four, so shall I give you one during noon?”  
(Sirius)

“Oh yeah! I would be glad if the Nee-chans also helped me on this training. Because I want to memorize this, even a little.” (Reus)

“That’s good intention, Reus. Understood, let me help you. But, I will not do it for your meals.” (Emilia)

“It seems fun. I wonder if I should ask the Spirits. Yeah, as a practice to silently make it float... yup, this might be my training.” (Fia)

“Nomnom...” (Reese)

“...Eh?” (Reus)

Reus’ bread was... totally gone.

And Reese had three breads.

In other words...

“...Reese-ane?” (Reus)

“Do not let your guard down, Reus. Eating occasionally becomes a battle.”  
(Reese)

Actually, I was watching the stealing scene. It could be described as high speed... no, it was as if she made her presence disappear.

Reus was unable to respond to Reese, who had a serious expression.

“...Here you go.” (Sirius)

“...Aniki!” (Reus)

It was pitiful, so I returned the bread for the time being.

“Yes, I will also give it back to you. You better be careful next time.” (Reese)

“...Reese-ane! Ouu!” (Reus)

Reus, who received the bread that was returned, made glittering eyes of respect. It was a sight that could make other people believe that there was an absolute hierarchical relationship between those two.

As a result of the family discussion held at a later date, it was decided that I would be the only one who could do the training during mealtime.

It was because there was a possibility that Reus' portion of meals would be exhausted.

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“It is many times better to eat bread with soup, rather than the bread alone.”  
(Reese)

By the way, the reason to eat bread with soup in this world was to make it easy to eat preserved edible bread, which was hard to eat. However, the bread that I made had its own taste, and I made it with a somewhat strong taste.

As I continued eating while smiling, Reus, who had finished eating earlier and was looking at the direction of the Elves village, turned his face to Fia.

“Say, Fia-ane. In the end of the day, what are you going to do from now on?

You will surely call your Tou-chan, right?" (Reus)

"Yeah, well. Since it may be troublesome if I call Tou-san, I will call my friend."  
(Fia)

"Do you have friends, Fia-ane?" (Reus)

"That's rude. I do have a proper friend." (Fia)

Reus received a light punch from Fia because of a verbal slip, but since I thought that was just a little, there was no need to blame Reus.

Nevertheless, Fia's best friend, huh...

"Is that person a person who is good at taking care of others or someone who is open minded?" (Sirius)

"...I understood that feeling." (Emilia)

"Me too." (Reese)

"What's with that conclusion?" (Fia)

That was because of how free-spirited Fia was.

I thought that it would be difficult for her to associate with another person, unless that person wasn't being too crazy or funny.

"Well. I had my voice delivered by the Spirit a little while ago. So, I think that that person will come soon, but..." (Fia)

"Will it be alright for her to leave the forest(1)?" (Sirius)

"She is younger than me, and she hasn't come out on a journey yet. It doesn't hurt to come out for a while and if it is near here." (Fia)

I guessed that it was all-good because Fia said so.

Even so, there would be new Elf, other than Fia and Rodwell.

I imagined her personality, but when I did that, Fia sat down next to me and brought her body closer.

"She is a girl who often acts rashly and gives a slightly wrong impression, but she is honest and straightforward." (Fia)

"Oi, isn't it suspicious when you used the 'act rashly' words?" (Sirius)

“Compared to Sirius’ dreadfulness, she’s not that bad. Aah, yes, you can have her as a lover, too. If you don’t mind, she’s a really cute girl.” (Fia)

“Oi, don’t decide that on your own...” (Sirius)

The moment Fia hugged my arms while completely ignoring my will, I waved my arm in front of my face while activating [Boost].

“Aniki!” (Reus)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

It was a single arrow that was held in my hand.

At the same time as I confirmed it, an arrow was released again from the direction of the forest, but Hokuto and Reus leaped out and repelled it.

“Sirius-sama!” (Emilia)

“Is it an enemy!?” (Reese)

Emilia stood in front of me, while reaching out for her knife, and even though Reese was surprised, she created balls of water and prepared for battle.

And then, Fia who was still clinging to my arm...

“...What are you doing!?” (Fia)

“Kya!?” (??)

A strong wind rolled up when Fia swung her arms, and something popped out of the forest and tumbled before us.

It was a female Elf who had similar characteristics with Fia.

The Elf rolled on the ground several times and it seemed that she looked at us when she finally stopped rolling, but she quickly stood up and set the bow as to cover the unsightly appearance earlier.

“Tha-that human! Get away from that Elf at once!” (??)

“No... it’s not me, but it is her who is sticking to me...” (Sirius)

“What a nonsensical excuse! Humans like to disgrace the Elves. I know that it is natural for them to keep us like a pet! I will never forgive you for doing that to that Elf!” (??)

“Haa... Please calm down a bit.” (Fia)

“Since the human keeps her as a pet, I will—...mugyuuu!?” (??)

When Fia swung her arms once again, a compressed wind came down from above and hit the Elf to the ground. It seemed that Fia adjusted her strength, but it looked painful because the Elf fell with her face hitting the ground.

I observed the other side during that time. She was an Elf with green and yellow-mixed short hair and she was shorter than Reese. I could understand why she was said to be still like a child.

The Elf raised her face after a while, and she was bitterly looking at Fia, while letting out tears.

“O-onee-sama... Why did you do that?” (??)

“Have you calmed down a little? Look, I am clinging to this person with my own will, and the other children are my companions.” (Fia)

“U, uu... Onee-sama... with that man...” (??)

“Aah... it seems that you haven’t heard this. I am running away again.” (Fia)

“Fia... she is...” (Sirius)

“Yes, this girl is Asha(2). She is my friend in the village. I treat her like my younger sister.” (Fia)

I felt a bit sorry because she was in tears while lying on the ground, but this was our encounter with Asha.

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## **Presenting Hokuto**

It was Hokuto-kun’s habit to become his Master’s backrest when he was on watch duty at night.

As long as he did this, he would be stroked by his Master. Of course, his real feeling was to be useful to his Master.

In addition, if he put out his tail, there were also times when it was brushed. This was definitely a blissful time for Hokuto-kun.

Such a Hokuto-kun was... currently devoted to being a sofa to him.

Anyhow, his Master and Fia-san were chatting with each other while leaning against him, and it seemed that they were in a very good mood.

There was no way for Hokuto-kun to disturb the atmosphere with rough movement, so... he remained still as a sofa.

After a while, it was Emilia's turn for night watch and she was surprised to see them when she came around.

"Si-sirius-sama!? And with Fia-san..." (Emilia)

"Sorry. It seems like she was a bit tired, so I'm letting her sleep." (Sirius)

"H-how sly..." (Emilia)

"You too, come here." (Sirius)

"...Yes! Hokuto-san, is it alright for me to stay here?" (Emilia)

"...Woof." (Hokuto)

As a result, Emilia-chan and Fia-san snuggled on both sides of his Master.

"There, there... just a bit more, alright?" (Sirius)

"...Woof!" (Hokuto)

Hokuto-kun was a patient child.

※ By the way, Hokuto felt a bit painful because he maintained his posture, but he didn't think it was too heavy to have three people on his back.

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- 1. TLN: The author didn't mention the gender in these conversations
- 2. TLN: The name in raw is アーシャ



## Chapter 111 – The Barrier of Hesitation

“Say, Asha. Is there anything that you have forgotten to tell us?” (Fia)

“Do you mean the love I always whisper toward Onee-sama?” (Asha)

“You were the one who shot an arrow toward us, right?” (Fia)

“You’re wrong! I did it to get rid that foolish man who assault Onee-sama!”  
(Asha)

“When did you see me being attacked? Just stop it, and do something with your double-standard view!” (Fia)

It suddenly began with a preaching, and by Fia’s persuasion, the Elf finally listened to the story, and then... Asha and us were facing each other across the bonfire.

I thought that Asha would settle down after drinking tea, even a little, because her vigilance was too strong to have a conversation.

Emilia boiled the water using the bonfire. She, then, quickly brewed tea and gave a cup to Asha.

“Here you go. Hopefully it suits your taste.” (Emilia)

“Thank you very much. However, I will not receive the treatment of people from the human and other races.” (Asha)

She clearly refused.

Well, she was probably cautious about poison. Emilia didn’t seem concerned about it too much because she had anticipated that Asha would not accept it.

“Haa... You haven’t changed. Sorry, Emilia, can you give me that?” (Fia)

“Here you go?” (Emilia)

When Emilia handed the cup, Fia let out a sigh, while drink the tea a little, and then she presented it to Asha.

“If Onee-sama drank it, I must drink it then! Yes, I have to drink it!” (Asha)

I wonder where the serious look Asha had until just now went. She accepted the cup while breathing roughly.

I see... it was rude if she didn't drink it because she was intoxicated with Fia, who was like a sister to her. They didn't seem to be related by blood, but Fia and Asha were probably close like real sisters.

“The passion!? Kuh, this is a test of love for Onee-sama!” (Asha)

“...I feel something different.” (Sirius)

“She is such a girl. But, don't worry. She is not a bad girl.” (Fia)

As I watched the figure that drank the tea only at the part where Fia's mouth touched, I felt like she was a rather unfortunate girl.

Well... I didn't deny the love between women, and if Fia didn't really care... I guess it was fine?

Fia's persuasion continued as it was, and she finally began to recognize that we were not enemies.

“Sorry. Ummm, it was very delicious tea. The taste is suitable for Onee-sama to drink.” (Asha)

“Thank you very much. You can have it more, if you want. Anyhow, why don't we introduce each other before that?” (Emilia)

“That... I guess so. I am Asha. I am Fia Onee-sama's younger sister.” (Asha)

“You are someone like a sister, alright?” (Fia)

Emilia had successfully induced the talk.

It seemed that she liked the tea more than expected, since she asked for more. Indeed, things were going smoothly.

“My name is Emilia. I am Sirius-sama's attendant.” (Emilia)

“I am Reese. I am Fia-san's friend.” (Reese)

“Nice to meet you. By the way, what kind of relationship both of you have with Onee-sama?” (Asha)

Asha's eyes were sharp. She looked like a starving beast, and she seemed ready to attack at anytime, depending on the reply.

"My relationship with Fia-san? Well... She is like my older sister, and she is also my rival in getting affection from Sirius-sama." (Emilia)

"Err, uhmm... since we both like the same person, I guess... we are going to be a family? A-anyway, she is like a sister to me." (Reese)

"A family with Onee-sama, and another wants to be a younger sister, but the number one sister will be me... haauuu!?" (Asha)

"My number one sister is self-control. And I also think of you guys as my sisters. Yeah... cute sisters!" (Fia)

"Waah!?" (Emilia)

"Oh you, Fia-san..." (Reese)

Whether she was happy with the family declaration from Reese and Emilia, Fia, who was overcome with emotion, was pleased and held the two of them with both hands.

More importantly, wasn't that treatment dangerous towards the sister who was in agony for receiving balls of wind on the face?

"Onee-sama's love is painful! But... this is also love!" (Asha)

...That clearly didn't work.

Did she perceive anything related to Fia as a good thing? I felt that she was somewhat similar to Emilia.

Next, it was Reus' turn, but I couldn't predict what would happen because of the opposite sex. Even if Reus was attacked, he would be fine.

"I am Reus. Nice to meet you, Asha-san." (Reus)

"A man... is it? What kind of relationship do you have with Onee-sama?" (Asha)

"Eh? For me, Fia-ane is... Fia-ane! She casually watches over us, so I think of her as a reliable sister." (Reus)

"Hou! You understand well, don't you? Nice to meet you." (Asha)

She could probably judge that honest reply from the eyes that were looking at Fia that had no bad intention. Asha held out her hand, and the two of them were shaking hands.

Apparently, she didn't hate men.

"The last is me. I will take this opportunity to directly tell you. I am Sirius, Fia's lover." (Sirius)

"Is that so? You are Onee-sama's..." (Asha)

Asha stared with murderous intention, but I didn't want to hide because it was the truth.

Her vigor seemed to release arrows again, but it might be easier to understand that, rather than through words and facial expressions.

Having received the bloodlust loaded with jealousy and various emotions from the front, Fia departed from the two who she was hugging. This time, she stood next to me and clung to my arm.

"How many times did I tell you before I ran away from the village? He is my beloved person who saved me." (Fia)

"Yes, I can tell by looking at Onee-sama's happy face. And I also want to thank you for saving Onee-sama. Nevertheless, I..." (Asha)

"Indeed... it is impossible to make you suddenly understand. But, I want you to know something about Sirius, even only a little. I think that you also feel it... right? " (Fia)

Although the bloodlust settled down by those words, it didn't change the fact that she was still staring at me.

I thought about what I should say, but when I tried to say it, Asha raised her voice.

"I have a question. Are you... planning to bring misfortune to Onee-sama?" (Asha)

"I don't have such a plan. I told Fia that I just wanted to make her happy when she comes with me." (Sirius)

“You need to at least live for three hundred years. It’s no good if you can’t do that.” (Asha)

“Three hundred years? That’s impossible.” (Sirius)

‘I am human, after all. A hundred years... No, since I live a transitory way, I am not sure if I can live even for fifty years.’

“Onee-sama can still live for another five hundred years, you know? Do not speak so lightly that you are going to make Onee-sama happy!” (Asha)

Fia didn’t talk much about the lifespan of each other, and I also didn’t plan to talk about it.

But... that didn’t mean I ran away from the fact.

Fia didn’t interject since earlier maybe because she wanted to properly tell her.

While looking at Fia, and then, Emilia and Reese, I clearly spoke.

“It is impossible for me alone, but there will be people who succeed it. Therefore, Fia will not be unhappy.” (Sirius)

“Leaving it to others... that is a human, after all.” (Asha)

“I don’t leave it to others. The one who will succeed it... will be my children, right?” (Sirius)

[It’s just that I am an elf, you know? I can offer you a young body, but someday you will leave me.] (Fia)

[But, will loneliness fade if there are many children? When that time comes, please do your best. By the way, Emilia wants a boy and a girl, while a girl seems ideal for Reese.] (Fia)

...On the last day of the Fighting Festival, Fia told me so.

Not only me, Fia had decided to live as a watcher to our children, grandchildren and even great grandchildren.

As long as I lived, I would respond to that decision. I would do my best to make her... and my family, keep smiling.

“Besides, the one who decides Fia’s happiness is Fia herself. I will just keep

living for Fia and for my family. I will keep carrying that belief... that is all.”  
(Sirius)

I wasn't sure if Asha would agree with this, but I told her what I should tell.

I didn't plan to unleash bloodlust, but Asha faltered as if she was driven into a corner with my words.

“Y-you, can you really make her happy?” (Asha)

“As long as it is within my reach, I will protect her happiness.” (Sirius)

“If-if that's the case... defeat me and prove it! I am an expert of the bow, even amongst the Elves!” (Asha)

“No, I don't think there is a need to defeat you, but...” (Sirius)

If it was Fia's father, I could fight with a feeling of asking for his daughter, but... I was a bit confused when it came to someone who was like a sister to her.

Fia probably would stop it, but it was harsh when thinking about their relationship. Whether there was an opportunity to stop it, I tried to look at my disciples, and...

“I thought that having a boy and a girl would be enough, but now I want to have three children.” (Emilia)

“For Fia-san's sake, a boy and a girl is also probably alright for me...” (Reese)

“...Aniki.” (Reus)

Emilia and Reese were immersed in a delusional world with reddened cheeks, while Reus was grasping his sword as if to say ‘Should I do it?’.

I didn't feel any signs of them trying to stop this. As I expected, I needed to ask Fia only.

As my eyes met with Fia's, she nodded with a bitter smile.

“Please stop it, Asha. Your surprise arrow attack didn't even go through, so do you think you can win by challenging him from the front?” (Fia)

“No, Onee-sama. This is my pride. I can't convince myself if I don't fight and confirm it!” (Asha)

“Haa... It can't be helped then. I'm sorry, Sirius, just a little bit, please.” (Fia)

Even though she could understand, I guessed that there were parts that she couldn't recognize.

I wasn't sure about her feelings, but... I had no choice.

I nodded, and decided to fight Asha.

—

The rules of the fight were: it was alright to use weapons, but there would be no killing. And then, Fia spoke as if she remembered something.

“Say, Asha. After I left, was Tou-san safe?” (Fia)

“Eh? Y-yes. After that, the Elder Elf-sama came once and he seemed to be hurling insults at your father, but I heard that he returned to the depths of the forest without doing anything at all. I saw him before coming here, and he looked fine.” (Asha)

“Really? That's great. As expected, I worried too much...” (Fia)

“But, I was away from the location, so I didn't know what the Elder Elf-sama was talking about. After that, Onee-sama's Otou-san had a very difficult face, but he didn't say anything...” (Asha)

“Eh...? What does that...? Well, this is not the case. As expected, I should call Tou-san...” (Fia)

It certainly felt disturbing.

Yesterday, she was a bit weak-minded and hesitant, but she was originally a free-spirited woman who didn't know fear.

Fia returned back to her usual self, after making the decision, and she turned her back in order not to be seen by Asha. She was talking to the Spirits, trying to deliver the words to her father, but...

“Ehh...? Those people... it can't be!? Tou-san!?” (Fia)

“Onee-sama!?” (Asha)

Fia suddenly shouted while losing her composure. She didn't look at us and went into the forest.

This was the first time to hear Fia's shout. We were surprised, due to that sudden action, but this was not the time to be befuddled.

I quickly rearranged my thoughts, and I came closer to Asha, who was still surprised.

"Asha! Bring us to the village, now!" (Sirius)

"Eh? Wh-what are you saying—...?" (Asha)

"Fia was talking about him. Those people... There is a high possibility that the Elder Elves are doing something in this situation!" (Sirius)

For Fia, who was usually calm, to be upset until that extent... Given that behavior, her father was in seriously grave danger.

However, the response of [Search] in this forest was bad. Hence, I couldn't give chase without having a guide from the Elves.

"But, to bring in outsiders..." (Asha)

"If that's the case, you can say that you were threatened by me! You can say I am villain or anything, but just do it!" (Sirius)

"Please, Asha-san! I don't think there is a mistake in this matter." (Emilia)

"I want to be the strength to Fia-san! So, please!" (Reese)

"Please, Asha-san! I can't leave Fia-ane like this!" (Reus)

Asha's cooperation was essential, in order to get through the forest.

As we desperately lowered our heads, Asha finally started to move and walked towards the forest.

"...Either way, I have to go back to the village. But I have to be hurry, so I don't have time to care what's behind me." (Asha)

"Really? If it so, we only need to keep moving for the sake of Fia." (Sirius)

"Do it as you like. By the way, I'm saying this to myself, but the Elves know a special way to go through the Barrier of Hesitation so that it won't be activated. If you can closely follow me, you might be able to pass..." (Asha)

In the meantime, Emilia packed only the things that were needed in a bag,



and Reese, who I judged wouldn't be able to follow by foot, got on Hokuto's back.

After finishing preparations in no time, Asha put the bow on her back and rushed into the forest. And then, we chased after her.

—

In the dim forest, where the sunlight was blocked by branches and leaves, Asha went forward by kicking branches from one to another and we kept going in a line.

The scenery hadn't changed for a long time, but with a sudden change of direction, we went around and kept going forward. If people didn't know this, there was no way they could get through.

"Eh... Although I turned left, is it still left? Shouldn't we go back?" (Reus)

"Now, we can only believe in Asha." (Emilia)

I tried using [Search] many times while moving, but it was still unlikely to be usable, due to the bad response.

If that was the case, how about wild instinct? I turned my eyes to Hokuto, who was being careful not to shake off Reese.

"...Woof!" (Hokuto)

"Aniki! He smells blood from afar!" (Reus)

"Is that Fia's smell?!" (Sirius)

"Woof..." (Hokuto)

"It's no good, even with Hokuto-san." (Reus)

Even though there was the smell of blood, he couldn't seem to verify Fia's smell, maybe because of the influence of barrier or the distance was far away.

Was it blood? The bad feeling was getting worse.

"Onee-sama..." (Asha)

"I hope she's safe..." (Sirius)

As Asha said before entering the forest, she didn't care about us at all, and

she kept running forward.

Moving through forest was the Elves' specialty, but since she wasn't at the degree of our strength, we managed to follow her without getting stuck.

After running through the forest awhile, a big gate made of wood suddenly appeared.

The door was opened, and the moment I crossed the gate by following Asha... the surrounding atmosphere had clearly changed.

When I understood that the gate was probably the borderline of the barrier, I got out into a large space surrounded by forest.

I felt the signs and smells of many people. There were houses that were assimilated with trees lining up. This was probably the village of Elves, where it was Fia's hometown.

I couldn't imagine it with Rodwell, who lived in Elysion, and Fia lived in it, but originally, the Elves were a tribe that hated outsiders. If people go to the village without permission, they would try to drive them away by any means.

However, even though we openly ran out to the center of such a village, there was no sign that somebody was coming to stop us. Obviously, this was an abnormal situation.

"...This is somewhat strange. I can't find any Elves, even though there are many houses." (Emilia)

"Woof!" (Hokuto)

"There are smells like Elves from here and there, but everyone is shut in their houses, and won't come out..." (Reus)

"Asha, is this how the village used to be?" (Sirius)

"This is not normal! Onee-sama! Where are you!?" (Asha)

At the moment when Asha's shout sounded, I felt a flow of mana from the direction that seemed to be the center of the village.

I heard violent destructive sounds at the same time, but if I was already here, I didn't care if battles were happening.

It was highly probable that the battles involved...

“Aniki! Fia-ane’s smell is from that way!” (Reus)

“Aah, hurry up!” (Sirius)

“Onee-sama... Eeh!?” (Asha)

But now, rather than the village, it was Fia... And once I confirmed Fia’s location, there was no need to hold back.

We rushed out with full power and left Asha. We kept running with strong winds that were occasionally rolled up as landmarks.

At the same time as I jumped into the place, which was considered as the center of the battle, the ground greatly shook. I had no choice but to stop my feet because of the dust and my sight was blocked.

“What a hindrance! [Wind Storm]” (Emilia)

The cloud of dust was blown off due to Emilia’s Wind spell, and we caught the figure of Fia as the dust gradually cleared up.

“Found her—... Eh!?” (Emilia)

“Fia-ane?” (Reus)

But... the figure of Fia, which we finally found, was in a terrible state.

Her clothes were torn apart, and her whole body was covered with blood because of the injuries all over her body. In addition, she was heavily breathing. In other words, she was in a state of mana exhaustion.

I still didn’t see injuries that were fatal, but as the dust cleared up, I felt multiple signs of people.

The moment when I was putting my strength on my feet to go to Fia’s side... she noticed us and turned around.

“...I’m... sorry...” (Fia)

Her facial expression was so weak and I had never seen it before.

As the dust completely disappeared, the appearance of the signs that I felt became exposed, and... he was swinging the knife held in his hand to Fia.

Damn! To make it in time...

“Sirius... Thank—...” (Fia)

And the knife was stabbed into Fia’s chest.

—

TLN:

- There is an after note regarding the original script of the ending of this chapter. I’m not going to translate it because it is not that different from what you are reading now.
- The cliff strikes again on both novels. I will work hard for it! XD

## Chapter 112 – The Utmost Priority

“Sirius... Thank—...” (Fia)

‘—Sniping the knife... I can make it.’

‘—The position being stabbed is the heart, but... not yet.’

‘—The number of enemies is five... there is one close to Fia.’

‘—Hokuto and the disciples are one step late and they have started running.’

‘—The utmost priority is to secure Fia.’

‘—I will kill him.’

‘—Calculating distance, acceleration... deceleration...’

The moment when the knife pierced Fia’s chest... I kicked the ground while grasping the situation with [Multi-Task]. And then, I approached Fia while accelerating with full power.

“Get away... from my girl!” (Sirius)

I put my left hand on Fia’s back while decelerating, and I released [Impact] without any strength adjustments towards the men who seemed to be Elves with my right hand. The shock wave that covered the whole front area swallowed all five Elves and blew them away.

The reason I unleashed [Impact] wasn’t only to clear the Elves, but to dissipate the momentum of going forward with a recoil reaction.

Thanks to the recoil, I managed to hold myself on the ground and I was able to embrace Fia in my arm.

“Fia! Get a hold of yourself.” (Sirius)

“...Hehe... as expected, isn’t it...?” (Fia)

I wasn’t sure whether the enemy slipped his hand or Fia reflexively moved, the knife stuck in her chest had slightly deviated from her heart.

I immediately confirmed with [Scan], and even though her whole body was wounded, none of the wounds were deep.

‘If a proper treatment is given... she still can’t be saved!’

““Fia-san!”” (Emilia/Reese)

“Fia-ane!” (Reus)

I took off my coat to make it into a pillow and layed Fia down. My disciples, who caught up, were shocked when they saw Fia.

Reese got off from Hokuto at once and tried to use magic, but Fia grasped Reese’s hand in order to refuse her.

“Wait... the treatment... rather than me...” (Fia)

“What are you talking about!? The knife is stuck in you!” (Reese)

“Rather than me, Otou-san... Otou-san... please.” (Fia)

Beyond the sight that Fia directed, there was an Elf who had collapsed and was in a more severe condition than her... he seemed to be Fia’s father. Reus promptly headed over to recover him, but it seemed that he was going to die at anytime because of the excessive bleeding.

However, he was her parent who she tried to save and she even took the risk.

There was no way I could give up without confirming his condition.

Fia’s father, who Reus recovered, looked like a young man in his twenties, even though he was more than two hundred years older than his daughter, Fia.

Originally, his stained red hair was similar to Fia’s hair color. When I extended my hand to use [Scan], I realized that countless spells were being thrown at us.

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

However, Hokuto leaped out to the front. He swung his tail and forefoot to knock down all of them.

Their recovery was quicker than I had expected.

The [Impact] was released without caring whether it killed them all or not, but I couldn’t see how they endured it because they were blown away. They were

the enemies who drove Fia into a corner.

I confirmed the enemies with a sidelong glance, and they were all male Elves from their appearance.

However, they had a unique atmosphere, which was clearly different from Fia and Asha's. From the dense mana that I could feel, even from a distance, I felt that each of them had as much mana as the Headmaster, Rodwell.

'I see... I guess they are the Elder Elves.'

Unlike the Elves, in various ways, they brought uncomfortable feelings. Their facial expression hadn't changed at all. It felt like they were as cold as machines. It seemed that they didn't feel guilty for putting their hands on the Elves, Fia and her father.

While I thought so, the Elder Elves were separated three to our front and two to the rear. They were probably wary of the wide range attack of [Impact].

They were the ones who made Fia like this.

I wanted to quickly kill them, but...

"All-round defense!" (Sirius)

""Yes."" (Emilia/Reus)

"Woof!" (Hokuto)

First of all, Fia's treatment was the top priority.

I entrusted the rear defense to the siblings, while Hokuto was on the front. In the meantime, Reese and I would concentrate on the treatment.

"Reese... Otou-san..." (Fia)

"It's alright, Fia-san. I will make it in time. But, your injuries are severe. Why are there so many wounds on your whole body...?" (Reese)

"She was probably assaulted with non-fatal attacks." (Sirius)

Her father's body wasn't only torn with Wind magic, but there were bruises hit by rocks with Earth magic.

I immediately examined him with [Scan], but... he was clearly in a severe

condition due to various wounds and excessive bleeding.

However, whether I should say that he was fortunate or not, the injuries didn't reach the important organs inside his body. With Reese's Healing magic, there would be enough possibility to save him.

"This person's treatment is your top priority. Hurry up!" (Sirius)

"But... Fia-san is..." (Reese)

However, since it was necessary to fully concentrate and treat in this situation, the present Reese could only do it for one person.

Meanwhile, since we couldn't neglect Fia, she would inevitably be treated by me, but my regenerative activity only accelerated the potential of self-healing, so it was severely lacking and it took time.

Even in the present situation, Fia was prioritizing her father to the bitter end... Anyhow, even though the knife barely missed the heart, some crucial blood vessels around the heart were cut, but there was no problem to settle it by activating the self-healing.

But still...

"I will do something about it! Reese should only think about her father's treatment until it's finished." (Sirius)

"Y-yes!" (Reese)

The sooner the father's treatment was finished, the faster we could treat Fia.

After Reese agreed with me, she requested the help of the Water Spirits, while releasing the mana she gathered during the conversation.

"Everyone, lend me your power! Healing water that connects the life here!" (Reese)

With the Water Spirits being active together with Reese's mana, water wrapped over the entire body of Fia's father. And then, bubbles were blowing out from the wound at the same time as slight light emission.

The healing water he was wrapped in penetrated the wound and entered the body. However, there was a possibility that the body would have a rejection if



the mana was too strong. Therefore, delicate mana handling was necessary.

While Reese held both hands and carefully handling the mana, I looked at Fia, who was breathing roughly.

“Fia, I’m sorry. Although I said that I will protect you, and... make you happy, I...” (Sirius)

“What... are... you... saying? It was... me... I left... without permission...” (Fia)

After putting my hands on Fia’s chest, I instinctively apologized while performing anesthesia operation, but Fia, who had a pale face, was smiling.

“I’m sorry... too. Tou-san... was going... to be killed... you all... deserve better... time with... the forest...” (Fia)

If it was the Elves, they could directly get out from the forest, but if it wasn’t, we needed to go through a specific direction like before in order to get through the forest.

In fact, there was a time difference close to ten minutes between Fia and us, who came with Asha’s guidance. Fia’s father probably would be in danger if we prolonged the time.

“If the current me... trying to stall... but... it’s no good... what did... I really do...” (Fia)

According to Fia’s story that I heard before, the Elder Elves possessed strength enough to be arrogant, but that was not an exaggeration.

When I looked around, a huge amount of magic was being hurled towards us.

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

“Ooooo—!” (Reus)

“I will... absolutely not let you!” (Emilia)

Even so, Hokuto and the siblings were desperately trying to prevent them.

With the transformed Reus and Hokuto intercepting with all they could, and Emilia creating Wind around us as a last wall, it was barely able to prevent the magics while diverting them.

They probably would not last much longer, but I will believe in everyone and

devote myself to the treatment.

“The skin that you love... with such... wound...” (Fia)

“It’s alright. I will listen to your repentance after this is over. For now, just think about living.” (Sirius)

“...Yeah...” (Fia)

With this, I finished the anesthesia treatment with mana, but it was the real thing from here on.

Since the treatment would be done with [Multi-Task] from now on, I won’t have any room to care about what happened outside.

“Emilia! Reus! Hokuto! Keep it a little longer!” (Sirius)

““Yes.”” (Emilia/Reus)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

As I heard their reliable replies, I grasped the knife that stuck in Fia’s chest.

“Fia, listen to me. I will pull the knife now, alright?” (Sirius)

“...Yes. I will... leave everything to you.” (Fia)

The blood would instantly flow out when I pulled the knife, so I couldn’t do it until I was ready.

‘Do not damage the other nerves, straight... carefully... pull the knife!’

“Fuh!” (Sirius)

“Auu!” (Fia)

There shouldn’t be any pain, but it would be visually difficult.

Blood spurted as I expected, but I immediately pressed my right hand strongly against the wound to suppress the bloodshed.

My right hand that was pressed was dyed red with blood. While projecting the inside of Fia with [Scan], innumerable thin [String]s were produced from my right hand and penetrated the wound to the damaged parts.

The most problematic about the injuries was the blood vessels around the heart, which had been cut by the knife.

Because of that, I manipulated multiple [Strings] and forcibly connected the disconnected parts with magical threads. Of course, it was meaningless if I merely connected them. I revitalized the connected blood vessels through [Strings], and prioritized the regeneration until they returned to their original state.

In my previous life, a thin tube would be put through the blood vessel. It was a treatment method with reference to the technique of directly tapping the affected part in the body. However, in my case, it was a pretty aggressive method.

While activating [Scan] and [String], I simultaneously handled multiple [String]s and used mana to apply regenerative activity.

This operation was only possible because of [Multi-Task].

However...

“...Guuh...uuu” (Fia)

To be honest... this was intense.

The burden on the brain was terrible because this was considerably impossible, but... it was fine. I felt a light shock on my back and waist while I was in the middle of the operation, but I managed to keep working without making any mistakes.

And then, I removed the [String]s one by one at the time when the blood vessels had recovered with regenerative activity, and I erased them after making sure that blood didn't leak.

My sensation was ambiguous because the thought speed was raised to the limit, but I judged that it was probably enough in terms of time.

As I finally finished treating the stabbed chest, I opened my closed eyes and let out a deep breath.

“Phew... Alright. Next is...” (Sirius)

“Sirius-san!” (Reese)

Subsequently, when I tried to treat the other wounds, water started to wrap Fia's body.

Apparently, the treatment on her father was over. When I tried to stand up to entrust the rest to her, Reese stopped me by grabbing my hand with a crying face.

“What’s wrong?” (Sirius)

“You didn’t notice!? Sirius-san is also hurt...” (Reese)

As I was told that, I looked at my flank and back, and they were greatly torn and blood was flowing. Was this the shock that I felt during the treatment? Moreover, when I touched my face, I had a nosebleed because I was overworking my brain.

Whether I was concentrating with too much adrenaline, I guess the sense of pain was paralyzed. The pain started running as I checked the wounds, but I could still endure it if it was this much.

The cause might be some stray magic that couldn’t be prevented by the siblings, but I was fortunate because the magic that hit was a kind of disconnected magic. If I was hit by a rock or massive attack, my hand would probably make mistakes.

“Not yet...!” (Reus)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

“Asha-san, stop the other side! It’s getting harder to keep out their spells...” (Emilia)

“Kuh... are you going to play with that arrow?” (Asha)

At that time... Reus was already hurt, but he continued intercepting magic as before.

Hokuto had intercepted with the speed that could create an afterimage, and he perfectly intercepted every magic. I was glad that I entrusted the front site to Hokuto.

When I realized it, Asha-san also stood by Emilia, and she was shooting arrows at the Elder Elf who was casting magic. She was supposed to call the opponent with the -sama honorific... She was surely a strange Elf. She was like Fia’s sister, after all.

“Please don’t move. I will treat Sirius-san even if it is a little...” (Reese)

“No, I’m fine. Please focus on Fia.” (Sirius)

The wounds were wide, but they weren’t deep.

I entrusted the rest to Reese. After lightly stroking her head, I got up and looked at the surroundings to confirm the position of the Elder Elves.

It looked like they were tormenting Fia’s father. Moreover, they seemed to be playing around because they only used Elementary magic like Wind Blade and Rock Bullet?

Well... that was fine.

So...

“It will be your defeat.” (Sirius)

When I pointed my hands to the left and right, and fired [Magnum] at the same time, the magical bullets went through the gap of the Elder Elves’ magic and flew towards their chests.

But, the Elder Elves tried to prevent them with the knives they had, or twisted their bodies to avoid them; however... I had predicted that. Since I shot the bullets that triggered [Impact]s with a time difference, the bullets burst in front of the enemies and created a shock wave, and the Elder Elves were tremendously blown away.

The magic that had been showering like rain finally stopped, and the gazes of everyone gathered at me.

“Sirius-sama...” (Emilia)

“Haa...haaa... Aniki?” (Sirius)

“Woof.” (Hokuto)

“Eh!? Eh... what on earth was that!?” (Asha)

“You endured well. Let’s counterattack from now on!” (Sirius)

““Yes.”” (Emilia/Reus)

It seemed the Elder Elves directly received the [Impact]s, but it looked like

they didn't suffer much damage, since they were calmly getting up.

It seemed the effect of the [Impact]s earlier was not good. It might be because they were strong against long-range attacks. As I expected, I needed to directly deal with them with my hands.

When I grabbed the mithril knife, while closing the wounds on my flank and back with regenerative activity, a change was seen in the Elder Elves, who only used magic.

"...What an unusual magic." (??)

He came here and suddenly spoke.

To be honest, I didn't really want to talk, but let's go along with it, just to make the siblings have a little rest.

"While you have power to that extent, you don't know this magic?" (Sirius)

"Don't be conceited, Outsider. It is unusual, but... I already remembered. The magic won't connect again." (??)

"I wonder, how about you? On the other hand, I have a question. You are an Elder Elf, am I right?" (Sirius)

"Correct. We are the Defenders of the great Sacred Tree." (??)

Although we were attacked, it seemed possible to talk.

A strange term, the Sacred Tree, came out, but when I looked around the area, there was no suitable existence for that name.

There were no trees growing, and this place was a large space that seemed to be the village square.

"I see... the Sacred Tree, is it? Where is it?" (Sirius)

"It is in the depths of the forest from here... it is the Sacred Tree that exists in our village." (??)

"Thank you very much for your kindness. So, what do the Defenders do in this place without protecting the Sacred Tree?" (Sirius)

"It is to give punishment to the criminals." (??)

So, I turned my eyes towards Fia and her father, who had collapsed, but I wasn't even sure whether they were angry or not because they were as expressionless as ever.

"That Elf was an existence that I ordered to be mine, but she ran away from me. Furthermore, she decided to go outside, and defiled the blood called Elves." (??)

"Consequently, that Elf is a splendid criminal." (Sirius)

"And the Elf who helped her to escape is also a criminal." (??)

"Putting your smell on that Elf is..." (Sirius)

"If that's the case, you are a criminal because you have intercourse with that Elf, right? That is subject to punishment." (??)

It seemed that I was the cause of this, but... there was no need to apologize to him, who tried to own Fia.

Moreover, according to his garrulous talk, they were hurting Fia and her father and were made an example to the other Elves. Because of that, they were still alive because we were rushing, but... I wasn't going to forgive them, no matter what they did.

"Wait. Although they have a lower status than you, aren't they still the same family of Elves? It's unreasonable to easily punish and reduce their number." (Sirius)

"The Elves and us are separate beings. And the Elves are only the gatekeepers that lead to the Sacred Trees. There is no problem if a few of them are reduced." (??)

Fia said that she didn't despise the Elder Elves for looking down on them, but... I really didn't think so.

I quietly spoke to Asha, who was arranging her breathing behind me with a bow in hand.

"Asha. Are they really the Elder Elves? It is different from the story I heard from Fia..." (Sirius)

"There is no mistake that they are the Elder Elves-sama. But... I think that it is

clearly different from the Elder Elves that we saw a hundred years ago. At that time, they were more dignified, and they didn't say such terrible things like this." (Asha)

Even if we couldn't see the ups and downs of their emotions, didn't these people having different personalities from what we were told?

"Perhaps, they didn't want to wear the soil outsiders again..." (Sirius)

There were many things that I still didn't know yet, but in the end of the day, the Elder Elves were not only trying to kill Fia, they wanted to kill us, too. I wasn't sure what their rules were, but it was impossible for me to stay quiet.

And then, they left us and started to clean the dirt, maybe they were concerned about the soil attached after the scattered beating. They probably thought that they could kill us anytime, but with this, we earned some time to ourselves.

Without looking away from the Elder Elves, I spoke to the siblings behind me.

"...Can you still go on?" (Sirius)

"Yes! More importantly, I'm sorry, Sirius-sama. Because of us, you were hurt..." (Emilia)

"Sorry, Aniki!" (Reus)

"There is no need to apologize. The outcome is good enough, since their treatments were not interrupted with that much magic." (Sirius)

It was precisely because Reus desperately defended and Emilia was cutting with the power of Wind, Reese's treatment was successfully finished, and I ended up in this way.

However, since Hokuto completely prevented them from the front, where the assault was the most intense, the siblings seemed to have unbearable regret. I wanted to stroke their heads, but it was impossible right now.

"Well then, it's going to be for real this time. I will fight against those three in the front, and I will entrust the two at the rear to the both of you." (Sirius)

"Can we do it, too?" (Reus)



“Yeah, do it without reservation. They were the ones who caused Fia to be like this, so let’s make them regret.” (Sirius)

“Sirius-sama... please leave it to us!” (Emilia)

It might be best to leave it to Hokuto, but the siblings were also angry that Fia was almost killed.

Since the siblings could thoroughly protect us from the assaults earlier, they would be good enough to fight the Elder Elves.

“Asha, how about you? You can run away while we fight...” (Sirius)

“Please don’t ask me that after I remained here until this point. If Onee-sama is a criminal, I will also be glad to be a criminal.” (Asha)

“Thank you. But I want you to stop any attacks while staying at Fia’s side.” (Sirius)

“...It is unfortunate, but I realize that it is impossible for me directly fight them. And I know that it is pointless to worry about it.” (Asha)

If that was the case, there would be no problem, then.

The Elder Elves seemed to have finished cleaning the soil, so it was about time.

“Hokuto. Head back and protect those girls.” (Sirius)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

The most that I was worried about was the stray magic due to our battles, but there was no problem if I entrusted it to Hokuto.

After receiving my instructions, Hokuto returned and stopped in front of me, so I gently stroked his head.

“I leave them to you.” (Sirius)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

Having confirmed that Hokuto stood before Fia, the Elder Elves started chanting and there were countless magics appearing in the air.

“Are you using similar tactics even though you are the great protectors?”

(Sirius)

“The forest will be damaged if we go all-out. We can’t damage the forest.”  
(??)

Indeed, their attacks on us were intense as their magics released and broke the ground of the square but there was no damage to the trees.

It was thoughtful as the people who lived in the forest, and I also agreed about that.

We had to reduce wasteful damage.

“Criminals, rot away and be the source of the forest.” (??)

“Really? But...” (Sirius)

It was already... enough.

Switching my thoughts towards the battle, another switch was...

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“That is my line!” (??)

As I<sup>(Sirius)</sup> devoted myself for full attack, I was awakened in order to grasp the whole situation, and immediately turned to attack.

Before the three Elder Elves unleashed the magics they produced in the air, I widely spread [Impact] and blew them away.

Due to the shock waves released, the dust dramatically fluttered. And then, I kicked the ground and ran while my sight was still blocked.

‘—The magic in midair was almost blow away.’

‘— Mana restoration and simultaneous invocation of [Boost]... completed.’

‘— My enemies are... the front Elder Elf who seems to be the leader with a sword, the right one who had long hair and a small sword, and the left one who had short hair and a bow.’

I tried to challenge them to close combat by rushing through the smoke screen, but they were waiting for me with weapons in hand, maybe because

they were anticipating it.

First, I leaped into the bosom of the long-haired Elder Elf to attack from the start, but he swung his small sword with a blurry speed.

Although the sharpness of the blow was rarely seen, but... it was par to Reus' thrust. While calmly deflected the sword with my knife, I pulled the opponent's arm with my other hand and swept his feet at the same time. He spun one round in midair and was thrown to the ground.

"Wha!? That is a strange technique." (??)

However, the Elder Elf didn't go against the throw. He calmly rotated once and landed with both feet.

It was a throwing technique that utilized the reflexive action to counter the throwing, but that Elder Elf corresponded at first glance. The reflexes were amazing, but if I was disturbed with this degree, I wouldn't survive in battle.

I tried to aim at the gap when he succeeded in landing, but I noticed something flew from behind. So I cut it with the sword held in the opposite hand.

"My arrow, from behind..." (Short hair Elder)

"No, we can do it..." (Leader)

Before the cut-offed arrow fell onto the ground, the leader approached until he was before me. As I avoided the sword swung by twisting my body, the long-haired Elder Elf rebuild his posture and stabbed the small sword again.

I avoided it by doing a backwards jump, but the short-haired Elder Elf shot an arrow again while I was in midair.

Since I grasped the trajectory of the arrow, I used [Air Step], kicked the air and flew towards the short-haired Elder.

All of the shot arrows were avoided by jumping and creating a foothold. When I kicked the air for the first time, the Elders were disturbed.

"Wha!?" (??)

"In midair!?" (??)

Their facial expressions didn't changed at all, but even the Elders felt it was absurd to kick the sky.

Nevertheless, I had expected that their attack wouldn't slow down, but the upset was a good opportunity for me.

I leaped into the bosom of the short-haired Elder, while repelling the arrows that were released from the front with my knife. I grabbed his face with the opposite hand and struck him towards the ground, while using the falling momentum.

I tried to blow his face with a point-blank ranged [Impact], but since the other two Elders shot magic from behind me, I instantly took a distance to evade the magic, and I, once again, approached the short-haired Elder, who was about to get up, and tried to bring him down.

His head was struck and his brain was shaken.

I expected that his sword would drop, but the opponent calmly finished his chanting and unleashed his magic.

"Oh Wind!" (??)

"Kuhh!?" (Sirius)

I would avoid while rushing, if it was a Wind Blade or Stone magic, but it would be difficult to avoid a compressed Wind with that range.

Kicking the air and jumping to the side, I decided to put some distance and made a fresh start.

"Hey Outsider, that's brilliant." (??)

"Let alone resisting our attacks, you also made counterattacks." (??)

The three of them, who were scattered, were joining again, but they didn't unleash their magics maybe because there were trees behind me.

Nevertheless... they were stronger than I expected.

The countless magics were unleashed with almost no chanting required, and the quickness of their actions and their reflexes were far superior to ordinary people's. They were formidable enemies that came after the Strongest Sword

and the Magic Master.

Actually, they couldn't completely avoid my knife swings and magics, and they had several small wounds on their arms and legs.

I could at least defeat them if there was one only, but... I guessed that it was difficult to take all three down at the same time?

I could also ask for Hokuto's assistance, but it was possible for me to fight with full power because he was protecting Fia and others. Well...once I got used to this, I could probably do something.

The problem was that they were still intact, even if they were blown away with [Impact]. Moreover, I completely couldn't see that they were getting tired while hurling that much magic.

Although I knocked one of them on the ground with momentum that could crush their heads, it felt strange when there was no sign of concussion and he was standing without staggering at all.

"...Did you recover?" (Sirius)

Did the Elder Elves have similar capability like mine, where I could recover mana in an instant?

I heard that they would never leave the forest. Perhaps, they had the ability to recover not only mana, but also their stamina when they were in the forest.

If that was the case...

"Do it... in a single blow, huh?" (Sirius)

It would be a good idea to sever their necks, so that the recovery would be impossible.

As I arranged my breathing, while grasping the sword and the knife held in both hands, the Elders declared, while raising their mana.

"But... I can see every one of your movements." (??)

"Outsider, we'll end this in the next move." (??)

Whether they were going to end this as per the declaration, the three Elders spread out and approached me.

The leader and the long-haired Elder attacked from the left and the right, and I was simultaneously attacked by the short-haired Elder, who shot arrows in order to make way.

It seemed that I was slightly faster and had better skills than them, but it didn't make any difference when handling the three of them at the same time. Moreover, they openly declared that they had read my moves.

They were not bluffing when considering their reflexes and speed when dealing with [Magnum].

Was it the critical moment from here on?

“You're right... let's end this soon.” (Sirius)

I was looking forward to scolding Fia and greeting her father, anyway.

Using [Boost] to the maximum limit, I unleashed mana... in order to receive the Elders' assault from the front.

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TLN:

- FYI, the Third Switch uses 'Watashi' while Sirius uses 'Ore'.

## Chapter 113 – The Battle Experience

— Emilia —

While watching the two Elder Elves who stood before us... I remembered.

“Nee-chan, how’s your mana?” (Reus)

“It’s alright. I can still fight.” (Emilia)

“Understood. Even so... I remember that time.” (Reus)

“Yeah...” (Emilia)

I guess we were siblings after all, since we were thinking about the same thing.

We recalled the time when we dove into the labyrinth of Elysion’s school.

We were defeated by the adventurers called ‘Dragon Fresh Blood’. At that time, Sirius-sama was so angry and he fought the enemies alone...

“At that time... we could only look at Sirius-sama’s back.” (Emilia)

“Yeah. But this time is different. We are standing up like this.” (Reus)

We weren’t able to prevent several magic and Sirius-sama was injured because of that. We envied Hokuto-san because he could prevent them all, but we certainly had grown up.

Plus... even though Sirius-sama could entrust the enemies to Hokuto-san, he allowed us to fight.

Because the enemies hurt an important person to us, Fia-san, we really appreciated the opportunity given to us.

“Sirius-sama is relying on us by entrusting this to us. Reus... we definitely can’t lose.” (Emilia)

“Of course!” (Reus)

Gathering mana, I cover myself with Wind in order to receive a tailwind at any

time, and then, I spoke to Reus, who was hesitating a little.

“But, Nee-chan... are you sure you are alright? If it’s a person, I can manage it somehow, but...” (Reus)

Yeah, he was right. It was certain that Reus’ pure strength was already at the top, so I understood why he was worried.

Perhaps, the only aspect that was better than the Elder Elves was my instant acceleration, but they were better in the other aspects.

If I went on a one-on-one basis, the possibility of losing would be high, but...

“That is an unnecessary worry. Besides, I am your sister. I also have no problem matching with your movements and habits.” (Emilia)

Yes, I wasn’t fighting alone.

I was fighting together with my younger brother, Reus, whom I had grown up together with since he was born.

Whether the enemies are strong enemies, if we were siblings, let’s emerge with the victory.

“So, don’t mind me and fight with all your strength. And fight the Elder Elf on the right.” (Emilia)

“Understood. But, why the right one?” (Reus)

“This is because the magic unleashed is from the Earth attribute.” (Emilia)

If it was about slicing magic, it was easier to deal with visible rocks than invisible wind.

After completing a brief meeting, Reus prepared his sword and I held my knives while adjusting my breathing.

I wasn’t so sure about the details of why Fia-san had to suffer, but the Elder Elves were already enemies of Sirius-sama. In other words, they were my enemies, and I couldn’t forgive those who hurt our sister, Fia-san.

However, it was true that they were the enemies who drove Fia-san in a corner, even though she could use Spirit Magic, so I definitely couldn’t afford to be careless.



“Let’s do this!” (Emilia)

“Aah, I’m going, Nee-chan!” (Reus)

As we confirmed the magics that were converging, we split into left and right, and approached the Elder Elves.

I approached it while speeding up by a tailwind, but it seemed that the magic of the Elder Elf was faster.

“Are you finally making moves? However...” (??)

“What a fool.” (??)

There were countless magics raining on us again, but it wasn’t necessary to shoot them all down this time. Hence, the number of magics that shot at us, who scattered earlier, was halved.

“Don’t think your assault can hit us that many times!” (Emilia)

“If it is this much, I can do it!” (Reus)

I avoided the hurled magic, and when Reus jumped into the bosom while slicing the magic with his sword, the enemy also stopped using magic and got ready with a weapon.

And I got the incoming blue-haired Elder Elf that aimed at me as he thrust his shortsword, but I twisted my body and avoided with paper-thin difference.

What a sharp and fast attack...

Apparently, they were not only good at magic, the close-combat ability was also excellent.

“Compared to the speed of Sirius-sama and Reus...” (Emilia)

There were too many wasteful movements compared to Sirius-sama, whom I always observed, and the sharpness of the thrust was one degree lower than Reus’ thrust.

However, that didn’t change the fact that he was an unsparing enemy for me. Although I somehow succeeded in evading, several pieces of my hair flew due to the continuous piercing thrusts. In addition, I couldn’t completely avoid his attacks and I suffered with small wounds on my arms and legs.

“What’s wrong, Outsider? You can only energetically jump?” (Blue-Haired Elder)

“Say what you want!” (Emilia)

Nevertheless, I swung my knife while evading his attack, but instead of repelling using the sword, it was avoided and it didn’t even graze him.

Moreover, since I could see the opponent taking his own time, I might’ve been toyed with, but... I wouldn’t give up!

“In that case, here you go... [Air Shotgun].” (Emilia)

“Wha!? Oh, Wind!” (Blue-Haired Elder)

When I unleashed shots of Wind that imitated Sirius-sama’s magic at close range, the enemy was blown away. I wasn’t sure whether the opponent received a direct hit. However, he quickly made a Wind barrier, and it seemed my shot strength was reduced.

I immediately pursued by releasing [Air Shot] at the opponent who was rolling on the ground, but he intercepted with magic while turning around.

Although he was an enemy, there was nothing else that could be said, other than the reflexes and the way he reacted were within assumption.

Of course, the response to the magic they saw for the first time was dull. Alright, let’s aim for that.

If this was Sirius-sama, he would crush them before the magic unleashed by predicting beforehand or he would avoid it by leaping sideways at the right moment.

When I was thinking about a strategy and closing the distance with my opponent, I noticed the figure of Reus fighting at the edge of my sight.

“You can do nothing but charging, huh? The Outsiders are barbarians, after all.” (??)

“You can’t run away from me!” (Reus)

The Elder Elf kept his distance away from Reus while continuously unleashing magic. It might be because he felt disadvantageous in close-combat. It seemed

that he didn't escape into the trees because he was afraid that the trees would be cut down.

With Reus' abilities, he would know the opponent's movement at the time of collision, so he would be a winner if he could bring the Elder Elf to close-combat again.

Because of that, Reus desperately kept chasing him and sliced the magic unleashed. However, it seemed that he was somewhat falling behind when chasing the Elder Elf.

I want to support him by stopping the opponent's movement even for an instant, but...

"Do you think you can win by running away? Oh Wind, cut her!" (Blue-Haired Elder)

"Such a conclusion—... [Air Slash]." (Emilia)

I was also trying my best to pin down the Elder Elf before me.

Although I had somehow offset the magic hurled at me and immediately rearranged my posture, it was disadvantageous for me when having opponents who didn't seem to be getting exhausted because of mana. I had to defeat him before my mana ran out...

Without a moment's delay, I greatly jumped to the side, and I pointed my finger while avoiding his wind blade.

"One more time... [Air Shotgun]." (Emilia)

"That's pointless. I already—... uhh?" (Blue-Haired Elder)

I was already aware with the speed of their reaction.

So, the magic shot was aimed at the opponent's feet, and I changed the plan to bring up the dust and block his visibility.

"Are you going to hide? You are really a fool." (Blue-Haired Elder)

The Elder Elf mocked me with those kinds of word. After clearing the dust with Wind, he created another wind blade.

While avoiding it, I countered with magic, but I wasn't able to avoid it and half

of my left shoulder was cut.

However... with this, the preparation was completed.

I shouted to Reus while enduring the shoulder pain.

“‘Second Helping’, Reus!” (Emilia)

“Ouh! Oraaa—!” (Reus)

After receiving the signal of rallying, Reus used [Break Thrust] to the right side of the Elder Elf he pursued. By making the opponent move to the left on purpose, he moved to the targeted position.

[Second Helping]... It meant to lead the opponent to the left side.

“With that extent—... What!?” (??)

“Hey! Don’t get in the way!” (Blue-Haired Elder)

And the place where Reus guided him was where the blue-haired Elder Elf, who was fighting with me, was located.

However, their bodies did not collide against each other. They calmly moved to avoid a collision, but...

“This is something unexpected, but this time... Ugh!” (Blue-Haired Elder)

“Guhaa!?” (??)

The moment when the positions of the Elder Elves overlapped, a compressed Wind exploded behind them and created a shock wave.

They couldn’t react with the shock wave from behind because they were distracted by the positioning of each other, and the Elder Elves, who were hit by the shockwave, flew towards me.

The shock wave this time was caused by [Air Impact]. It had been unleashed with the time difference so that it would be activated after the opponents passed by.

The earlier smoke screen was a stepping stone to secretly release this magic.

This magic moved slower compared to other magics, so I had to take my time to prepare for the positioning that I expected for both of the Elder Elves.

“But, at this degree... Oh Wind, Slice!” (Blue-Haired Elder)

“We are still... Oh Earth, Pierce!” (??)

However, even in the state of being blown towards me, the Elder Elves were hurling magic towards us.

Since I was gathering mana at that time to a certain magic, I was not only unable to counter, but it was also difficult to evade it.

But, there was no need to avoid it.

Because...

“I’m not going to permit that!” (Reus)

I was fighting together with Reus.

Needless to say, Reus, who stood before me, slashed all the incoming magics. In that way, their assaults were dispersed.

Reus swept away the Elder Elves, who were flying towards us together, but the enemies immediately put magic on their feet to change the trajectory, and they managed to avoid his sword.

“I have expected that!” (Emilia)

I went past the side of Reus, and I unleashed the magic I loaded in my right hand at the blue-haired Elder Elf, who avoided Reus’ sword.

‘The mana should be thin... sharp... and sever everything!’

“...[Drawn Wind Blade]!” (Emilia)

I swung my right hand and unleashed a wind blade by imitating a Katana. As a result, I cut off the left arm and the left foot of the blue-haired Elder Elf.

The remaining Elder Elf probably tried to unleash magic before me, but I crouched because I had already expected it.

Because... our attack hadn’t ended yet.

“Dorashaaaa—!” (Reus)

At the same time of my crouching, Reus’ sword passed over my head.

Yup, Reus rotated without killing the momentum when he swung the sword

sideways, and by the time my spell ended, he made a turn and made another frontal swing.

Since the opponent was distracted because of me, he couldn't avoid Reus' assault and his feet were slashed away. In addition, he was blown away by the wind pressure generated by the sword.

"Guh... my... arm..." (Blue-Haired Elder)

"What... is this...?" (??)

As one would expect, they couldn't hide their shaken feelings after losing some of their limbs. Both of the hurled Elder Elves collided against the trees and stopped moving.

Their stamina and mana seemed limitless, but apparently, they were not able to regenerate limbs.

With this, I was saved because it would be unfavorable if they recovered. It seemed that we didn't need to ask for Hokuto-san's assistance.

"How was it!? Nee-chan's and my attack..." (Reus)

"Guh... It's impossible." (??)

"For us... to be defeated... by Outsiders who are inferior to us..." (??)

"...We are surely inferior to you." (Emilia)

However... I'd been observing forever.

Starting with Elina-san's movements, and then, Sirius-sama's habits and breathing, and after that, giving him necessary things before he asked... As an attendant, observing the surroundings was a must skill to have.

Even if the opponent was superior in everything, it was possible to cope if I could read ahead.

It was the result of observation, but the weakness of the Elder Elves was that they didn't try to understand their own partner.

They were overconfident with their superior reflexes and abilities. They thought that they could cope with anything, so their vigilance was loose and their judgment was slightly delayed.

“If that’s the case... why can’t you win?” (Reus)

“Since you couldn’t understand it, that’s why you are lying on the ground.”  
(Emilia)

“Well, for you to say that... But, we haven’t lost yet. Our comrades who punished that foolish Outsider will dispose of you.” (??)

“Yes. To challenge us alone... that is truly stupid.” (??)

“Fool... is it?” (Emilia)

Comrades... they were probably the three people who were fighting behind me.

We could struggle at most with three people.

But their opponent was...

“No, you are the foolish ones.” (Emilia)

“Aniki is not going to lose, you know?” (Reus)

Sirius-sama was the one who taught us how to live and how to fight.

As what Reus said, I didn’t think even a single fragment that Sirius-sama would lose.

More importantly, I wonder what I should do with these two.

Although I had severed their feet, since they still had their arms attached, they could still use magic.

I had a lot of things I wanted to hear from them, even if they were detestable enemies, but when I was thinking how I could bind them... a roaring sound started to spread from the rear.

When we instinctively looked, the battle was...

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“But... I can see every one of your movements.” (??)

“Outsider, we’ll end this in the next move.” (??)

I(Sirius) kept thinking about the short-haired Elder who held a bow at the inner part of their group, rather than the two Elders who stood in the front.

First off, I wanted to reduce their numbers, so I was thinking how to shake off the two Elders and took the one behind them, but the Elders said that they had already seen my movement.

Since I was aware that they weren't bluffing from their physical abilities, it would be difficult to shake off the two Elders who stood in the way.

If so, I had to deal with the two before me, but it was highly likely that I would be hit by arrows if I took too much time.

The situation was a bit harsh, but... a long-range assistance was always a threat. Let's go for the Elder at the inner side.

"You're right... let's end this soon." (Sirius)

Using [Boost] to the limit while unleashing mana, I kicked the ground to run through the Elders who stood in my way.

I would've been caught if I had just ran straight ahead, so I repeatedly decelerated and accelerated to change the pace while on my way through, and I changed the speed by matching the timing of my opponents.

However...

"Is it a trick? I have already seen it." (??)

"You can't escape our eyes." (??)

The calm Elders completely read my movements. They exercised their weapons as they came close by, pinching me from the left and right.

The leader swung his sword at my neck and the long-haired Elder thrust his short sword towards my heart.

Even so... my movements would not stop.

I struck the gap where the weapons were swung, and got through the Elders. And then, I approached the short-haired Elder while repelling the arrows that were shot with my knife.

"I am not sure about the reason, but it is now easy to..." (Short-Haired Elder)



He was surprised for a moment that I came straight between the two Elders. Based on the experiences of being grabbed and beaten on the face, this time the Elder prepared a knife in his hand for close-combat, and pulled the arrow.

This short-haired Elder probably wanted to say that he had seen my movements.

He tried to release the arrow at an exquisite distance that was difficult to avoid, but whether he started to hesitate at the sight spread before him, he stopped his movements for an instance.

“What... is this!?” (Short-Haired Elder)

Although he was shaken, he still shot the arrow. However, that timing delay was fatal.

I already moved away from the arrow’s trajectory and headed towards him from the side.

“Bastard!” (Short-Haired Elder)

The short-haired Elder turned while swinging his knife, but I moved according to his turning point. I went around behind him, and then, I swung my sword while getting away from the spot.

“... Wha...” (Short-Haired Elder)

“You guys said that you have seen my movements just now, but have you misunderstood?” (Sirius)

And when I swung the sword to brush off the blood that was stuck on... the head of the short-haired Elder fell and was rolling on the ground.

I used [Search] while watching the situation, but I couldn’t feel any mana from the Elder who had his head severed, and there was no sign of movement. Even though they could recover stamina and mana, it seemed they couldn’t do it when the head was cut off.

“...What do you mean?” (??)

“My sword certainly connected...” (??)

However, even if their comrade had fallen, the feeling of it being completely

tragic couldn't be seen from the remaining Elders. It seemed that they were more interested in me.

"What a heartless bunch. Your comrade just died, you know?" (Sirius)

"So, what about it?" (??)

"Dying is proof of being weak. There is no need to grieve." (??)

"More importantly, why is the Outsider still alive?" (??)

Although they slashed my neck with a sword, and pierced my heart with a shortsword, they were surprised why I was still alive.

It was true that they completely grasped my movements, but they were attacking my illusion... or afterimage.

To be exact, I was misleading the opponents' vision by adjusting light by using [Light] magic. It was a technique to release mana from my whole body and leave an afterimage for a moment on the spot.

It was similar to Beowulf's [Heat Haze] that I met during the Fighting Festival, but because my figure became blurred due to the mana remnants, it was a bit weak to be used as a diversion.

However, by referring [Heat Haze] with Marina's abilities, the technique was completed with the help of Reus and Emilia during the testing. The possibility of being deceived was very high because my afterimage was perfectly visible.

I named it [Mirage].

At that time... the Elders came close to me when I was trying to get through them, but while I activated [Mirage] by aiming at the moment when their weapons were swung, I kicked the ground and I was one step back from the spot. I decelerated in order to reduce the momentum going forward.

And then, only the afterimage remained on the spot, and the Elder who didn't know that was killed in one hit.

"I am alive regardless, and what you attacked was my afterimage." (Sirius)

"Afterimage? I don't really understand that, but you're using nothing but strange techniques and magics from the beginning." (??)

“But, I remembered it. We won’t be deceived next time.” (??)

“Really?” (Sirius)

Although they were expressionless, they prepared weapons while displaying the confidence of victory. However, there was one thing I wanted to say.

“So... what did you remember?” (Sirius)

There was no more danger from long-range attacks. With this, I could finally concentrate on the opponents before me. It was slower than a bullet, but the arrow attack was a considerable threat when considering the time-delayed attack and the techniques of the Elder.

I finished recovering my mana during the conversation, and I purposely declared to do the same thing while approaching the two Elders.

After that, I ran with a zigzag pattern while activating [Mirage], and from the opponents’ vision, it felt like I was approaching with clones.

Actually, I did this even when I approached the short-haired Elder earlier. Because of that, he was agitated because he saw multiple figures of me.

The remaining Elders didn’t feel shaken probably because they said that they remembered my movements. They chose the tactic of waiting for me as they gave up trying to attack those strange movements.

“Even if it seems to be more than one, the Outsider is just one person.” (??)

“We won’t be defeated since we have seen those movements.” (??)

“Say... did you really see my movements?” (Sirius)

First off, I leaped into the leader’s chest, and I asked the question while furiously hitting the opponent’s sword.

“I was wondering what you wanted to say. It can’t be helped that we can see the movements of the Outsider who is inferior to us, right?” (??)

“It is true that I am inferior than you guys, but...” (Sirius)

There was no doubt that the Elders were way better in terms of basic abilities.

I would definitely lose by the differences if I normally fought them, but I was fighting with the techniques I fostered and with [Boost].

However, I have something better than these people that would make me never lose to you.

And that was... battle experience.

Even if I matched the age of my previous life, I might be young compared to the Elves, but without a doubt, I could conclude this fact.

In other words, the Elder Elves didn't have any life-and-death battle experiences.

The sense of crisis was lacking and without those superior abilities, I wasn't sure how many times they would be killed by us<sup>(1)</sup>.

They were in trouble because of my observation ability.

"Your movements... I already remembered." (Sirius)

Saying that they had seen my movements, but that was my line.

Reading all of the information about them, such as their breathing, footwork, wrist, eye movement... I read ahead the opponents' actions while processing the information with parallel thought.

By reading ahead, the movement, that completely crushed the opponent's assault even before they did it, was almost like predicting the future.

With such a sudden change of my movements, the leader was starting to get confused.

"Wha!?" (??)

"Bastard!" (Short-Haired Elder)

The short-haired Elder came with a shortsword from behind me while I was slashing the leader, but I rotated my body 180 degrees to avoid it.

His aim was still my heart, huh?

With the nature of a shortsword, the trust point was the main point of the weapon. Therefore, it wouldn't cause a fatal injury unless it connected to a critical point. It was easy to predict because it was his established tactic of aiming at the heart.

"Kuh... my aim...!" (Short-Haired Elder)

Moreover, the Elders were getting disturbed as I continued evading while leaving afterimages through [Mirage]. Whether they understand the afterimages, it became harder to catch me with their eyes.

Nevertheless, the Elders' movements and abilities were amazing. They were doing all they could, even if the only thing they could do was to give a slight resistance.

So, while attacking, avoiding, and repelling with the sword and knife in both hands... I continued waiting for the opportunity.

"If that's the case, let's release attacks which can't be avoided." (Leader)

And then... the irritated leader took one hand off the sword that was held with both hands, and pointed his right hand at me to shoot magic. It was the same as before. He was going to use Wind magic to clear the whole front area.

But, I was waiting for that.

The moment he pointed his unprotected hand...

I had been waiting for a long time. My sword was swung faster than his magic, and I sliced his right hand. At the same time, I kicked the leader's stomach with my right foot to blow him away and he was forced to take a distance.

I thought that he wouldn't immediately become a hindrance, but as I was lagging by those two actions, the short-haired Elder's protruded sword had already come close before me.

"Got you!" (Short-Haired Elder)

'But... I told you that I already remembered your movements.'

I turned my body towards the front by the kicking reaction. And then, I extended my left hand to the shortsword that was approaching my face, and I grasped the blade of the shortsword with the grip strength of my fingers and palm without touching the blade part.

I successfully grabbed it, but I couldn't stop the thrust loaded with his weight with the grip strength of my left hand. It was thin, but with the power hidden in the Elder Elves, the impact would be more.

It was impossible to stop, but... it was possible to slightly divert the trajectory

of the shortsword.

When I loaded strength in my hand and moved my body to the right while diverting the shortsword to the left, the tip of the shortsword put a small cut on my cheek and went past my face.

“Wha—... guhh!?” (Short-Haired Elder)

And then, the abdomen of the Short-haired Elder, who open eyes wide because I stopped his sword with my bare hand, was penetrated with my sword.

“To this extent... guhoo!?” (Short-haired Elder)

However, he tried to release magic with the opposite hand, even though he was pierced by my sword. So, I pushed the sword even further, and knocked the Elder to the ground. I pointed my other hand while looking into his eyes.

“...You tried to kill us. But, are you prepared to be killed?” (Sirius)

“Preparedness? Such a thing will never exist in us, Elders. For us, death is just a story of us returning to the Sacred Tree.” (Long Hair Elder)

“...I see.” (Sirius)

It was pointless to talk to anyone who didn’t understand preparedness.

While pulling out the sword from the opponent’s stomach, I shot [Impact] with every remaining mana I had.

The released shock wave enveloped the Elder’s body without any surplus, and with the roar of the earth, he was destroyed without any trace on the ground.

And...

“...I overdid it.” (Sirius)

Even though I was angry because Fia was beaten, it seemed that I made a slight mistake.

And... I said so to myself in the center of a crater-like hole where the Elder’s shadow and shape disappeared.

—

## **Hokuto-kun and Asha-chan.**

At the time when Sirius-kun and the Elder Elves were fighting...

The stray magic shot by the Elders who were fighting the siblings flew towards Reese, who was treating Fia-san...

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

Hokuto-kun immediately leaped, and beautifully knocked down the magic with his feet and tail.

Not only did he crush the flying rocks, he utilized the tenderness of his paws to evenly absorb the impact. He was displaying a fine technique that crushed rocks to small pieces. It was a consideration of not letting the magic hit Fia-san, not even a small piece of the rocks.

As for Hokuto-kun, the technique was such a small matter... No, it was before the brushing in the morning.

Since there were not many stray magic flying about, Hokuto-kun was doing well in protecting Fia-san...

“Ugugu... although the one that should protect Onee-sama should be me!”  
(Asha)

He couldn't help feeling concerned about the dark jealous eyes he felt from behind every time he knocked down a stray magic.

“...Woof.” (Hokuto)

Nevertheless, he couldn't leave it to Asha-chan.

Regardless of that, Hokuto-kun kept knocking down the magic. Not only stray magic, the Elder Elf's arrows that were shot were also approaching.

Those came from the front and the back at the same time.

Many of them were magic, so Hokuto-kun first shot down the magic and then headed towards the arrow.

“You...!” (Asha)

Asha shot an arrow and shot down a flying arrow.

Her technique was amazing, but because she was focusing too much on that one, she was late in noticing another arrow that flew behind the shadows.

“Kuh! I will protect Onee-sama!” (Asha)

She had no time to shoot the next arrow... so Asha quickly decided and spread both hands toward the arrow to act like a shield.

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

However, Hokuto-kun came down from midair, and dropped the arrow with a tail swing.

Although Hokuto-kun didn’t really do her a favor, when he looked back, the jealous eyes should’ve settled down...

“Aah... although I was planning to hug Onee-sama by protecting her from the arrow with my body...” (Asha)

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

...Hokuto-kun decided to give up in many ways.

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1. TLN: ‘Us’ as in Sirius and Third Switch



## Chapter 114 – To be Led

“...Hmm? Aah?” (Fia)

“...Were you awake?” (Sirius)

“Siri-...us? This place is...” (Fia)

“It’s your house. And you’re sleeping in Fia’s bed.” (Sirius)

Fia was in the bed in her own room, and she was happily closed her eyes when I stroked her head after she woke up, but she was about to get up in a panic maybe because she suddenly remembered the situation.

“Wait!? That is—... uhh!” (Fia)

“Do not push yourself. Even if the wounds are healed, you don’t have enough blood.” (Sirius)

She was staggering just by raising her upper body, so I held her shoulder and stopped her.

Fia became calm when looking at my serious look as she obediently lied down on the bed while her cheeks were blushing.

“... I’m sorry. For making you worry.” (Fia)

“I don’t care it that much. Let me tell you this first, your father is safe. Reese is taking care of him now.” (Sirius)

“Is she? That’s great.” (Fia)

After letting out a breath of relieved, she reached out my hand and when I grabbed that hand, she finally put up a smile.

“There are many things I want to say, but first, let me say this. Sirius... thank you.” (Fia)

“Yeah. Tell that to everyone too.” (Sirius)

“Of course. Can you tell me what happened after that?” (Fia)

I explained what happened to her after she got stabbed.

Having separated with the siblings, they pushed two Elders until they were almost unable to fight, and I dealt with another two of them.

“And then, after clearing the second Elder, I looked for the leader for the Elders, but...” (Sirius)

When I got out of the hole made by the [Impact] released, I couldn't see the shadow or the shape of that Elder.

After that, Hokuto came next to me and pointed at certain direction with his foot. When I turned around, I saw a scene where traces of blood and trees were unnaturally shaking.

“It seemed that they were running away. Besides that, the two Elders who fought Emilia and Reus were also gone.” (Sirius)

One of the Elder seemed to have both of his feet cut, but he was carried by the other Elder and they escaped to the depths of the forest. No wonder Hokuto stopped guarding and came close to me.

I also thought of chasing them, but the depths of the forest was the domain of the Elder Elves. Therefore, I gave up because it was highly likely that they would turn the table around if I poorly followed them. More importantly, I couldn't leave Fia.

Apparently Reus was going to chase them, but he calmly judged the situation and he was on alert with the surroundings.

“Anyhow, after the battle ended, we carried Fia and your father here and took a rest.” (Sirius)

We asked Asha to lead us to Fia's house.

After the situation had calmed down for a while, the Elves came out from other houses when I was filling the holes in the square that I made in the battles with Magic Stones.

However, they were not only watching the battle against the Elders, but they also saw me killing two Elders. While looking at us from surroundings, they didn't come close to our direction because they seemed to be afraid of us.

Because of that, I asked Asha to explain the situation to other Elves.

We were not forced to go out of their village and it might be because of that. Besides, I was glad they didn't release murderous intent or dangerous signs.

"They heard it from Asha that this was related to saving the Chieftain. It seems that your father is loved by everyone." (Sirius)

"Of course. Because he is my father. By the way, how long have I been asleep?" (Fia)

"That's about half a day. But, don't worry about them now. Just eat, sleep and restore your stamina even a little." (Sirius)

It was already dark outside, but the interior of the room was bright with plants that emit light like a lamp.

If the blood was lost, it was the best to take a rest with nutrition. Since I had pre made food for Fia in the kitchen of this house, when I wanted to bring it, Fia grabbed my sleeve to stop me.

"What's wrong?" (Sirius)

"Uhm, can you bring your face a little closer?" (Fia)

"...Alright." (Sirius)

Looking at that earnest expression, I brought my face close to Fia's mouth according to her request. And then, she hugged my face with both hands.

"You know... I have been in danger so many times when I was traveling, but this was the first time that I feel so close to death." (Fia)

"...Were you scared?" (Sirius)

"I was scared, but it wasn't because of that. I understand that I've been in danger because it is my own fault. But... more than anything, I am afraid that I will involve you all... I feel guilty. I'm sorry.... Sirius." (Fia)

"Don't worry about it because I decided to come here on my own while understanding the risks. Everyone is also agree with that." (Sirius)

"Yeah... thanks." (Fia)

While Fia hugged me, she told me what happened at that time.

When Asha fought me outside the forest, she heard from the Spirits that her father was about to be killed by the Elders.

“I thought that you guys would come, but I got really confused when Tou-san was in danger, and... when I realized it, I went into the forest by myself.” (Fia)

It might be because she was in panic, she judged that she should earn time until I chased after her. She seemed had given up in case something happened and I couldn't come. It seemed she didn't want to get me involved.

It was upright, but... there was nothing I couldn't bear. She was probably like that because she wasn't calmed, but it was necessary to remonstrate her on this matter.

“I thought that I could do something because you taught and trained on how to use Spirit Magic... I am really... a fool.” (Fia)

“Yes, you are. So, please never do such a thing again, and stop thinking about giving up.” (Sirius)

“...Yes.” (Fia)

Apparently, Fia hadn't gained strength yet, but since she kept hugging me as if she didn't want to let it go, we stayed as it was for a while. She suddenly grabbed my head and she looked into my eyes after we changed position.

“What's wrong?” (Sirius)

“You see. when I was stabbed with a knife, I remembered the words you said to them. So... I want you to say it once again.” (Fia)

“...You mean that, huh?” (Sirius)

It was something I inadvertently blurted because of anger, but there was no mistake that it was my true feeling, so let's respond to her request.

“Is it... ‘Get away from my girl’? But with that way of saying, isn't it unpleasant treatment as if you are my possession?” (Sirius)

“Ehehe, women are sometimes weak against those overbearing words. Especially when it is from you...” (Fia)

After that, we exchanges kisses as if I craved for it, but she immediately got

away from me midway when it was getting difficult to breath.

“Haa... I was a bit surprised. I can only do this much, but when I become better... as much as you want...” (Fia)

“I don’t mind if you are that passionate, but just stay put while you are still weakened.” (Sirius)

“That’s impossible. I can’t hold myself when you said that I am your girl.” (Fia)

And again, Fia gave me a kiss, but since it was a lightly touch this time, it seemed that she tried to maintain breathing.

She was unusually fawning, but her heart was probably weakened because she felt that she was almost dying or felt indebted.

I didn’t mind about how she replied earlier, but whether she herself agreed with it, it was something that she must overcome by her own.

I let Fia did as she pleased at the moment, and we finally had our mouth separated, but she still wanted to hug me.

Since I felt like someone was going to come soon, I wanted her to let me—...

“I felt that Onee-sama had awaken! Onee-sama, here’s water for—...” (Asha)

...Of all things, the person that I didn’t want to come here had come.

Somehow, Fia was in daze and she seemed didn’t notice Asha. So, when I tried to push her, she didn’t let me go.

Now, I wondered what would that girl do...

“...More importantly, Onee-sama have safely woken up. Therefore, in order to protect Onee-sama, I will not pull back a step even if my opponent is the Elder Elves-sama.” (Asha)

“...” (Sirius)

“So, I will not fight anymore. It is frustrating, but I guess I have to recognize you.” (Asha)

“...I don’t think your words and actions are completely match, you know?” (Sirius)

I finally got away from Fia, and the first thing I did was charging toward Asha who was holding a bow and trying to shoot an arrow.

Fia, who noticed the existence of Asha there for the first time, was smiling in a state that she didn't care at all. In a sense... the margin was amazing.

"I'm sorry, Asha. Because of me, I've made you worry and bothered." (Fia)

"I don't mind anything if Onee-sama is fine! More importantly, are you thirsty? I'm bringing water for you." (Asha)

"Y-yeah. Can I have it please?" (Fia)

"Sure! Aah, Onee-sama, you don't have to move, I will let you drink with my hands!" (Asha)

Wedging herself into my position, Asha brought a cup of water close to Fia and made her drink it.

Fia stroked Asha's head while thanking her, and they looked like a real sibling. Well, if only Asha wasn't excited and her nose was not rough...

"Sirius-sama, Fia-san is... aah!?" (Emilia)

"Ooh! Fia-san has woken up." (Reus)

"Fia-san, that's great..." (Reese)

Subsequently, the siblings and Reese also came into the room. So, Fia immediately apologized for involving them in the matter of the Elders.

As expected, no one cared about such a thing. They were only pleased with Fia's safety.

"I think your father will wake up by tomorrow because his breathing is stable now." (Reese)

"Yes, thank you, Reese. I can't really return the favor to all of you." (Fia)

"Don't worry about it, Fia-ane." (Reus)

"That's right. It's not necessary to hold things back especially with us." (Emilia)

"Hehe... thanks. But, this is my distinction. Someday, I will absolutely return

the favor.” (Fia)

Having said that, when Fia extended her hands, the siblings and Reese were smiling at each other after grasping her hands. They were really close.

Then, after preparing the soup made for Fia, I decided to talk over this matter.

I was sorry for doing this when Fia was recuperating, but I couldn't say that we were in a good situation. Therefore, I wanted to confirm the situation and quickly get through it.

“Are you concern about the Elder Elves movement?” (Fia)

“Yeah. Although there is no response so far, the possibility of coming to retaliate is high.” (Sirius)

Currently, Hokuto was sitting outside the house and continued being on guard. So, we probably wouldn't receive surprise attack.

I wasn't sure whether the Elders came to retaliate tomorrow morning or few days later, but I should rest my body for the time being while having the others to keep watching.

To tell the truth, Fia and her father were safe, so there was no reason for us to fight with those who had already retaliated.

However, instead of cutting the arms and legs of the Elders, we also got rid of them. There was no way for them to forgive us for doing that.

As for me, I didn't have other choice but to kill them. More importantly, they were the opponent who could instantaneously recover stamina and mana, so it wasn't easy to adjust when fighting with them.

Well... it was unavoidable even if I cared about it at this late hour.

“Anyhow, let's prepare for tomorrow. There are several possible assumptions, and...” (Sirius)

The most possible assumptions would be the part where they returned to retaliate with their comrades.

If there were ten, Hokuto and I could attack without worrying about damaging the surrounding. Although we could manage somehow, we were still

in disadvantage situation because we didn't know the scale of the enemies or their numbers.

"For the time being, our plan is to escape immediately if there are at least ten of them. The packing of the luggage has been completed, right?" (Sirius)

"Yes. I put it at the front door so that I can carry it anytime." (Emilia)

Since we hurried into the forest, we kept several camping tools out of the forest. For that reason, Hokuto and the siblings went to collect it with the guidance of Asha.

"I guess the problem is with Fia-san's Otou-san and the Elves in the village, right?" (Emilia)

Yes, that was the biggest problem.

We were the only ones targeted, so the quickest way was to escape with Fia. I had a feeling that they wouldn't chase after us once we got out of the forest.

However, there was a possibility that other Elves living in this village would fall victim, just like how Fia's father went through.

Since it was very bad if it happened like that, we were staying here.

"Asha. How was the talk?" (Sirius)

"Yes, I've told them. It seems that there is no other way, so everyone was convinced." (Asha)

We had to tell through Asha that if we ran away, they might attack the Elves in the village.

We were in this house because the Elves felt threatened, so we had to get the stories straight. It was convincing because we had defeated the Elder Elves.

In other words, by treating us as enemies, if we knew that the Elves of the village who were friendly to the Elders, they would probably not going to make a move. Depending on the situation, I intended to... bring Fia's father away even if it was impossible.

"It is because of us that the situation became like this. To be honest, I want to do it amicably..." (Sirius)



“It’s inevitable, Aniki. They wanted to take Fia-ane as they pleased, and since she is Aniki’s woman, you will kill them, right? I will absolutely not allow them to do so!” (Reus)

“They are distinguished existences compared to the Elves, but they are completely like children.” (Emilia)

“Yeah. They talked about punishing the criminal, but I felt like it was nothing but selfishness.” (Reese)

“Anyone who aims at Onee-sama is my enemy!” (Asha)

We agreed that it all depended on the response of the Elders.

Because of that, we came out with several possible assumptions, and we discussed the countermeasures until late night.

—

Early in the morning of the next day...

I was sleeping wrapped in a blanket in the living room of Fia’s house and I woke up a bit earlier than usual.

Reus was next to me and he was wrapped in blanket like me. Reese and Emilia were sleeping on the sofa, but they didn’t wake up as they were in deep sleep.

Yesterday, it was a continuous tension due to the battles with formidable enemies. Since I wanted them to have more rest even a little, I quietly left the living room and went outside the house.

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

Hokuto was lying down outside while watching the surroundings. As soon as he noticed me, he approached me while swaying the tail.

“Good morning, Hokuto. Apparently, there was no enemy attack.” (Sirius)

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

“Aah, sorry for asking you to guard. Come, I’ll brush you.” (Sirius)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

And then, I was drowning in a nostalgic feeling while brushing Hokuto who was lying down before me.

Even though we might end everything here if the Elders attacked with huge numbers... my heart were calm.

I might die tomorrow... I guessed it was because I tasted such a life and death experience in my previous life.

“I always brushed you in the morning before heading out to the battlefield.”  
(Sirius)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

“Aah... I understand that. No matter what happen, we will absolutely survive. Because of that... I trained until I wanted to vomit.” (Sirius)

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

I was taught various things from Shishou, but what was most trained was the survival instinct to stay alive no matter what.

Right... Hokuto and I survived well in that hell.

“There, there. I understand your feeling but you are not the old you. There is no need to be scared.” (Sirius)

“...Woof!” (Hokuto)

I stroked Hokuto’s head since he became a bit scared. It might be because he remembered that time...

“Sirius-sama.” (Emilia)

When I turned to the voice, Emilia, who had woken up, was about to come out from the house. It seemed that a long time had passed when I noticed.

I hadn’t feel any reaction yet, so as I was thinking about preparing for breakfast soon, I was a bit surprised when Fia came out from the house.

“Fia? Are you alright?” (Sirius)

“Yes, I’m fine if it is just walking. I haven’t thanked Hokuto yet.” (Fia)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

“It’s a bit vague, but I remembered being protected by you. Thank you.” (Fia)

When Fia was stroking the approaching Hokuto, Reus murmured while turning his eyes to the depth of the forest.

“Those guys... I wonder when they will come.” (Reus)

“Since the time space between us and the Elves is a bit different, it seemed that they will come in a few days.” (Emilia)

“Yeah... it is good to take a rest, but I don’t want to spend so much time.” (Sirius)

Since I couldn’t completely sense when the other side would come, I had accumulated mental fatigue.

It would be alright if Hokuto and I could get used to it, but it would be difficult for the siblings and Reese if the situation was prolonged.

“Anyhow, shall we prepare breakfast? We will not be able to think calmly if we’re hungry.” (Sirius)

“Yes. Fia-san, can you let me use the ingredients in the house?” (Emilia)

“Please do not hesitate to use it. Tou-san’s treasured sake is there. If you want it, you can drink it.” (Fia)

“No, drinking sake in the morning is a bit too much. By the way, don’t tell about the treasured sake first.” (Sirius)

Could it be that Fia wanted to drink?

For the time being, I left the sake aside, and I used the Elves’ unique ingredients to make breakfast.

Incidentally, Fia’s mother died when she was a child, so Fia and her father were the only ones who lived in this house.

“Tou-san... hasn’t woke up yet. I’m glad that he is safe, but I want him to wake up soon.” (Fia)

“Aah, at least he knows about the Elder Elves better than us.” (Sirius)

That way, the basis for decisions would likely to increase.

Anyway, when I finished eating breakfast while thinking about the information I wanted to know...

“Awooooo—!” (Hokuto)

Hokuto’s howl echoed from the outside.

We instantly picked up weapons and headed out in order not to let the house destroyed due to a surprise attack.

And I used [Search] while I was heading out, but the result was surprising.

“Aniki! I will go forward and become a shield, from behind—...” (Reus)

“No, it’s alright, Reus. Everyone, please go behind me at once.” (Sirius)

There was... somehow only one response.

Moreover, neither hostility and bloodlust could be felt, and the response grandly appeared from the depths of the forest.

“A person... is it?” (Emilia)

“Yeah? But it’s not the people from yesterday?” (Reus)

“Besides, the atmosphere is completely different.” (Reese)

Since the intention to fight wasn’t felt, I went a bit forward in front of the disciples and waited for the other side to come.

I couldn’t feel hostility even a fragment from a tall man with white hair who wore a butler-like attire. I thought that he was an Elder Elf from the appearance, but the atmosphere apparently was different from those who we fought yesterday.

The siblings and Reese were confused since the man was approaching without any sense of vigilant and having no weapon, but... I was somehow having a strange feeling. Whether Hokuto who stood next to me was also in the same mood, we were increasing vigilance even if there was no hostility.

And then, the Elder, who walked toward us, politely bowed after putting his left hand on the chest.

He was expressionless, but he was an Elder which reminded me of competent attendant like Emilia from the appearance.

“...Excuse me. Allow me to ask a question. Are you the human and the beastkin who fought our brethren?” (??)

“If so... what will you do?” (Sirius)

“If that’s the case, I would like you to follow me. Our founder, Seiki-sama would like to invite you to the village of Elder Elves.” (??) (TLN: Seiki is the Holy Tree. I decided to use the word Seiki instead.)

He wanted to invite us who hurt their brethren?

I felt that this was lame if it was a trap.

“If I refuse?” (Sirius)

“Nothing will happen. Since I was told not to force you, I will just return to the bottom of the Seiki-sama.” (??)

“...Then, can I ask you a question?” (Sirius)

“I don’t mind. I am allowed to tell information to a certain extent.” (??)

He was like a robot, but if he could answer it, it would be good. Let’s gather as much information as possible.

“What happened to those who attack this village yesterday?” (Sirius)

“...Seiki-sama seems wanting to answer in full detail, so I’ll make it short. Those guys will never touch you again.” (??)

“Were they being disposed off?” (Sirius)

“It is so. I think that I can’t believe it easily, but when the Holy Tree-sama said so, I was also convinced. We are not monolithic.” (??)

The truth was that those five Elders were missing from the group, and this incident was due to their recklessness.

In addition to the rule and discussion, it was their side who broke the law, and they were already disposed of by the higher hand about this time.

...I had thought of such an optimistic assumption, but I wonder if it was close

to that?

“I killed your brethren, so... what do you think about it?” (Sirius)

“Nothing. My brethren were fools... that’s just it.” (??)

Apparently, he had no hostile intention to us.

It was suspicious in various ways, but I was unusually concerned about what they called the Seiki-sama. I didn’t know why but I thought that I would like to meet it.

I might be invited, but if I went there, my disciples would definitely follow me. I had to leave Fia because she was still recuperating. Moreover, it was difficult to bring her along.

The Elder seemed to understand that I was hesitating, so he lightly shook his head without showing any expression.

“Since you are hesitating, let’s hear your answer later. I have other purpose as well.” (??)

“What is that purpose? If you put your hands on Aniki, I will cut you!” (Reus)

“No, it’s not about you guys. We have to bring the Elf named Shimifia of this village back to Seiki-sama.” (??)

“...Why Fia?” (Sirius)

“There is something Seiki-sama wants to give to her...” (??)

What did he mean?

It was fine with the guys from yesterday, but why the Elders wanted to invite Fia?

Was it because she could see Spirits... but she didn’t show it, so what on earth was... No, it didn’t matter. Fia was my girlfriend. Hence, it was only a matter of protecting her if it was dangerous.

We quietly put ourselves on guard if he tried to force us, and instinctively got into a formation to protect Fia when the door of the house was opened and she appeared together with Asha.

“...It’s alright. I think that person is a different Elder Elf from yesterday.

Besides, I also want to ask him something.” (Fia)

“Got it. But if something happens, we will escape even if I have to carry you.”  
(Sirius)

“Yes, I depend on you if it happens. Elder Elf-sama, will it be fine if I ask questions?” (Fia)

“It’s fine.” (??)

“I am a criminal who broke the law of the Elves. Even with that, will you still want to invite me?” (Fia)

“It doesn’t matter. Seiki-sama doesn’t mind such trivial things.” (??)

“Then, what will happen to the people in this village if Onee-sama goes there?” (Asha)

“Nothing will happen. The Elves are the gatekeepers who protect Seiki-sama, so there is no reason to thoughtlessly hurt them.” (??)

“Then... that so called punishment, what is not your general consensus to injure not only me but also my father?” (Fia)

Fia and Asha looked calm, but it seemed that they were quite angry on the inside.

Which remind me, this was my first time seeing Fia angry.

“That’s right. Since I have nothing to say in regard of this, Seiki-sama will take over the matter.” (??)

The Elder accepted the girls’ anger. He, then, took out a small branch while gently nodded.

It looked like a simple branch that could be found from nearby trees, but... I felt an unusual mana that I couldn’t put into words. Therefore, it couldn’t be helped to feel worried.

As I expected, Hokuto was also the same. As we both raised the vigilance, Fia and Asha were fascinated when seeing the branch and forgot about the anger.

“What’s wrong, Fia-ane? It is certainly a mysterious branch, but is it that surprising?” (Reus)

“...I don’t know. Somehow, I can’t take my eyes from that branch...” (Fia)

“M-me too!” (Asha)

“This is a part of the Holy Tree-sama. It is said to shave itself as signs of apology and friendship to the Elves in the village.” (??)

“Is that... a part of the Holy Tree-sama?” (Fia)

Unlike us, there must be something that could be felt only by the Elves on that branch.

Fia stared the branch for a while and then, she slowly looked at me.

The look that contained with such a determination... it seemed that she was serious.

“...Do you want to go there?” (Sirius)

“Yes. Somehow, it feels like a very powerful being, so I have a feeling that... I must go.” (Fia)

“If that’s the case, we will also go.” (Sirius)

“Understood. I will get ready.” (Fia)

“I will also help.” (Sirius)

“I will check Otou-san once, alright.” (Fia)

It was somewhat suspicious, but if Fia said that she wanted to go, we would also go there.

And then, while the disciples returned to the home to do their tasks, I asked questions while giving a sharp look.

“Won’t the bunch from yesterday attack us while on the way? And I wonder if that Seiki-sama or something will not harm Fia?” (Sirius)

“That is the life of the Seiki-sama. Besides, my brethren who went against it were already been disposed of. Your safety will be guaranteed unless you hurt the Seiki-sama’s mood.

“...Understood. Please guide us.” (Sirius)

“Leave it to me.” (??)



Either way, if I didn't get a clear picture about this matter, I wouldn't be able to leave this place without worrying, and I couldn't continue my journey.

After that, when I was getting readied, I remembered that Fia's father hadn't woken up yet.

Although the treatment was given and the critical moment had passed, I couldn't leave him alone. When I was worried to whom I should entrust her father, Asha decided to do the job.

"I will not be able to enter the Elder Elves' village because I am not related. So Onee-sama, you can leave this to me." (Asha)

"...Thanks Asha. Please take care of Tou-san." (Fia)

"Yes! I'll be waiting for Onee-sama to come back!" (Asha)

She probably wanted to go, but I guessed that she noticed she would be a burden if anything happen.

The branch of the Holy Tree-sama was placed in Fia's house. While being sent off by the teary-eyed Asha, we broke through the forest and left for the Elder village.

—

The leading Elder said that Seiki-sama's village was a half day on foot.

For that reason, Fia who was still recuperating was put on Hokuto's back. We followed the Elder and kept on going through the dim forest.

"It is appropriate to call this forest as a sea of trees. It seems that we will lost if we poorly enter the forest." (Sirius)

"There are plants that I have never seen before. Have people like us ever visited the village?" (Emilia)

"According to the story of the Holy Tree-sama, it seems that it happened once in the distant past. Since it is dangerous if you get lost, please don't stray from me." (??)

I noticed the presence of monsters, but they ran away after confirming the appearance of the Elder. It seemed that the Elder Elves was at the top of

existences who reigned over the forest.

We proceed through a trackless path, and when we went through a tunnel which naturally made by a huge tree root, we came in front of a cliff that high enough to look straight up.

“It’s... tall!? Is it that way!?” (Reus)

“That’s right. But, there is no need to go beyond the wall.” (??)

The cliff-like wall seemed to extend to clouds depending on places. I would have hard time to go over it even with [Air Step].

Following the Elder, when we walked along such a wall for a while, we arrived at a place where a huge tree root was breaking through it.

“This root... is something wrong with it?” (Reese)

“Well. Looking at the size of the root, I think that the size of the tree must be quite large.” (Emilia)

“This is the root of Seiki-sama. And this is the entrance to the village.” (??)

This was... the root of Seiki-sama?

As Emilia and Reese were talking about this, if this was a root, the Holy Tree would be tremendously huge.

When the Elder murmured a word to the root while we were still surprised about unrelated matter, the root started to move slowly and made a hole in the wall.

“Since our village is surrounded by this huge wall, it is not possible to enter unless we ask Seiki-sama to make way.” (??)

“That’s amazing! But, in regards of cutting the root, can people enter by burning it?” (Reus)

“It is impossible to burn or cut the root of Seiki-sama. Besides, if such things happen, you will be instantly killed by our hands. Whether it is a joke or not, never say such things in the village.” (??)

“O, ou! I won’t say it!” (Reus)

Some people might not be able to accept it as a joke. With the Elder’s sharp

glint in the eye, Reus was nodding while scratching cold sweat.

In the first place, it would be difficult to burn a tree that full of vitality, and it was impossible to cut unless he was at the level of Lior-Jiisan.

This impregnable fortress was made by the nature.

“Our village is beyond this cave and this is where Seiki-sama resides.” (??)

“At last...” (Fia)

“Aah, now you can relax, right?” (Sirius)

Although I said that it would be fine with this Elder, I couldn’t afford to be careless.

After going through a long and dim cavern, what came into our eyes was... a huge tree.

There was a considerable distance to the root, and when I looked up like at the cliff earlier, it was enough not to be able to see the branches covered by the leaves.

“Seiki-sama is waiting at the root there.” (??)

The sunlight was blocked but the Holy Tree, but the village of the Elders was as bright as daytime and a warm and fantastical world spread before us. It might because of the overflowing mana from the Holy Tree. If I wasn’t in such a situation, I would want to take a nap.

Several houses could be seen on the way to the root, and the other Elders were also could be seen.

However... the number seems not that a lot. Since [Search] could be used here, I tried to release it in wide area, but there were only about one hundred Elder-like responses.

I was surprised with that small number, but what was more surprising was the enormous mana that I could felt from the root of the Holy Tree.

I didn’t sense bloodlust, but there seemed be to a ridiculous monster over there.

“...What is that?” (Reus)

“When I noticed, the tails seems to stand upright.” (Emilia)

“But, the Water Spirits don’t make racket, you know?” (Reese)

“The Wind Spirits are also the same.” (Fia)

“...Woof.” (Hokuto)

Hokuto was walking beside me together with the siblings, and then he stopped. It might because he noticed the presence of that monster.

On the other hand, Reese and Fia didn’t seem to understand well yet because the Spirits didn’t make noises.

“Either way, let’s go there since we are already here.” (Sirius)

“Yeah... you are right. I will follow no matter where you go, Sirius-sama.”  
(Emilia)

“Yup! I will also follow you, Aniki!” (Reus)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

We started walking, and we finally arrived at the root of the Holy Tree.

There were several Elders quietly stood around that and there were three Elders who attacked and ran away from us among them.

But... there was no need to pull out weapons.

“Ah, Aah....” (??)

“Uhh...” (??)

“Why... like this...” (??)

The whole body of the three Elders were covered in roots that came out from the ground, and there was nothing could be seen other than their faces. It seemed that the Elder who brought us here was saying the truth.

And then, the Elder who finished guiding, left us. He knelt as he approached the root of the Holy Tree.

“Seiki-sama... I brought them.” (??)

<...Good job.> (Seiki)

At that time, my body instinctively became tense the moment when the voice reverberated to the surrounding... and something inside me meshed.

At the same time, light overflowed from the root of the Holy Tree. It was gathering in front of us and trying to make a shape of a person.

“Ku...kuwooonnn...” (Hokuto)

“Wait, what’s wrong, Hokuto?” (Sirius)

It seemed that Hokuto, who had brought down Fia, also noticed it. He rubbed against my body while hiding behind my back.

And when the light got subsided... there was a female Elder Elf with fluttering and shining blonde hair.

“...Waah.” (Reese)

“Oo...ooh...” (Reus)

“I don’t plan to compete, but... it is unlikely my win.” (Fia)

“For me, Sirius-sama is more amazing.” (Emilia)

That beauty spontaneously made the disciples fascinated.

Without falling behind compared to Emilia’s and Fia’s breast size... such an outstanding proportion beautiful woman looked at us, and while faintly smiling... she muttered.

<Well, then... shall we kill each other?> (Seiki)

—

— Emilia —

<Well, then... shall we kill each other?> (Seiki)

A woman who appeared from a tree called the Holy Tree, and she said such words to us.

It was too sudden. Our bodies solidified with the words released together with intimidating feeling. I was stunned and forgot to understand the meaning of such words.

But, only one person was excluded...

“House!” (Sirius)

That person was Sirius-sama. He ordered us to wait while charging alone.

I didn't feel anger from Sirius-sama's back, but the atmosphere was similar when Fia-san and us were attacked. In other words... it was a proof that woman was a formidable enemy.

If that was the case, I didn't think that I couldn't let Sirius-sama's fought alone even he already gave the order, but... my legs couldn't move at all.

Due to the intimidation unleashed by that woman, we were completely frightened and our legs were frozen.

“Sirius-sama...” (Emilia)

“Aniki... damn it! Why...” (Reus)

“Wh-why...?” (Reese)

“Haa... it seems difficult to breath...” (Fia)

Reus, who was supposed to get used to Sirius-sama's bloodlust and intimidation, was without exception...

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

Even Hokuto-san was also frightened.

Although Hokuto-san bravely faced no matter what kind of enemy, he was completely afraid of just a the woman in front of us.

During the time when we desperately endured... the battle between Sirius-sama and that woman was extremely severe.

Sirius-sama swung the knife with the mind to kill. That woman also fought with wooden knife which she had grasped beforehand. However, the sounds of clashing like steel being struck were reverberating to the surrounding many times.

Moreover, Sirius-sama didn't hold back when using [Air Step] which he rarely used when fighting people.

Kicking the air, the raging offensive in mid air was increasing... I could probably hold up for few minutes, but surprisingly, that woman avoided not only paper margin, she made counter attacks against Sirius-sama.

And then, she grasped Sirius-sama's arm and tried to throw him to the ground, but he forcibly kicked the air and shake her off. During the gap, he unleashed [Magnum] while taking a little distance.

Moreover, it was five shots at the same time... he didn't really go easy on her.

<You have used another unusual magic!> (Seiki)

"There is no meaning if that doesn't hit!" (Sirius)

The magic that was seriously shot could easily penetrate steel, but... that woman swung the knife and knocked it without problem.

Aah, she obviously at different level compared to us.

What on earth was that woman...

<Hah! That habit seems haven't changed even though you died!> (Seiki)

"Well, you too. You are unreasonable as ever! Shishou!" (Sirius)

Eh... she was Sirius-sama's... Shishou?

—

## **Presenting Hokuto**

This is the 'Presenting Hokuto', but since he is in an abnormal [Terrorized] condition, the story will take a rest.

—

## **Extra**

The Strongest Sword's Consultation Room

...Uhm, I should read this script right?

Ahmm... Hello everyone. Are you swinging your sword today as well?

My name is Reese, and I will act as the moderator in this corner.

This is the corner that let the one who is called the Strongest Sword, Lior-

sama. He will answer questions from you.

Since it is pointless to measure, let's call Lior-sama immediately... there he is.

"Uhhh, you called me, huh. By the way, what the heck is this?" (Lior)

Eh?

That script is...?

"What is this? It was a bunch of paper that could easily be made as pillow, and..." (Lior)

...I got it.

I will ask you questions from now, so it's good enough if you can answer.

"Got it." (Lior)

Well, the first one is the consultation that came from a postcard.

The pen name is... Reus?

I wonder if that boy misunderstood about pen name?

Anyway, it is consultation from Reus.

<Although I became stronger than Nee-chan, I can't win against her. So, what should I do?> (Reus)

"Hmm... Should you just slash her?" (Lior)

Excuse me... it is just a question, but that answer is a bit...

"What's wrong with it? This adviser know nothing, but you can win if you slice her, right?" (Lior)

But, as she became the sister of the boy, slicing Emilia is...

"She is that Emilia!? That mean... it is from that youngster! Where did he go!?" (Lior)

Uhm, uhm... Lior-san?

Where are you going...?

"Boy! You can't slash her!" (Lior)

"What are you talking Jii-chan!? Slashing Nee-chan is... Aah—!?" (Reus)



...As Lior-sama became absent, this corner is ended at once.

Everyone, have a nice weekend.

I wonder... if I am a good moderator?

The Strongest Sword's Consultation Room... is amended. Now it is Lior's Acting Recklessly Consultation Room... The End.

# Chapter 115 – A Person who Always Does Things as Pleases

Shishou.

She was a beautiful woman with fluttering blond hair, a beautiful face and body that fascinated even women. Moreover, she had an vast knowledge and martial arts abilities.

That woman was the one who picked me up from an orphanage in the previous life.

In other words, she was my benefactor, but since the treatment was like that, she was someone who I could easily express my gratitude.

I asked why she picked up and I was wondering because of it. But when I thought about what she said for a while...

<The reason... are you asking for that? Well, I was hungry at that time and you probably looked like a prey.> (Shishou)

...Yup, that one.

It might be because I was picked up on a whim, she didn't intervene with my life. She was basically like a housemate who lent me a place to sleep.

Furthermore, since Shishou's housekeeping abilities were catastrophic, it was necessary to memorize it in order to live. For example, I had to make my own meals.

My job was to clean the house and prepared meals, but... I had no complaints because I was picked up.

It seemed like a cold relationship when asked, but since I didn't know about parent's love, I was convinced of such a thing.

Anyhow I wanted to be strong because I knew that I had no parent when I was born and I was always being attacked due to irrational things in the orphanage where I lived.

That was why I volunteered and asked Shishou to become stronger even a bit, but... that was the beginning of hell.

And then, the training continued as she experimented with me. She even laughed while playing around.

It was like being killed everyday... like being thrown into the depth of mountains alone... and into battlefields... I wondered how many times I cursed Shishou because she tried to kill me.

Really... I thought that I was able to endure that hell well.

Although I disliked it, I believed that... I could survive anything if I could win against Shishou.

Though it sounded bad, I was a fool at that time.

Such a weird relationship continued for more than ten years, and one day... I wasn't sure if it was a coincidence or a miracle, I was able to give a blow to Shishou for the first time.

The next day... Shishou disappeared and she left a letter.

And...

—

<Hah! It was a brilliant reappearance of gun, but that doesn't work!>  
(Shishou)

"If it looks like that, it is several times more powerful than the real one!"  
(Sirius)

In front of me who was reincarnated in a different world... Shishou showed up.

I put aside the matters of why she was here and why she was called Seiki-sama.

Now, if I didn't surpass her in this fight, the conversation wouldn't progress.

I didn't think that was something that should be said to a disciple who she hadn't seen after long time, but that was everyday occurrence for Shishou, so letting those words out was like playing around.

To put it briefly, it was a joke. Well, Shishou was someone like that.

Although it was a joke... it was an earnest playing around with the potential to die. For me in the past, it was a serious game that always made me have premonition of death. In the first place, the term 'Mock Battle' didn't exist in Shishou's dictionary.

There were many times where my heart stopped because she failed to adjust her strength, but I was resuscitated every time.

Therefore, if the disciples joined the fight, they would certainly be done accidentally by Shishio. So, I ordered them to wait while kept fighting.

—

I tried to tear her throat by swinging the Mithril Knife, but Shishou avoided it from touching the skin with a paper thin margin, and she tried to stab the wooden knife at my brain.

I twisted my head and avoided it, but Shishou chased me with her knife while extending her arm, so I stuck out my knife and repelled it.

With that kind of close combat, the sparks scattered every time our knife blades collided.

"Seriously... what's with that knife!?" (Sirius)

<What are you saying? Can't you see that it is a wooden knife?> (Shishou)

"Don't say that when a wooden thing hit a Mithril and it cause sparks!"  
(Sirius)

<That's because it is a part of me!> (Shishou)

If it was so, there was no mistake that it was a deadly weapon.

Since I felt like I was going to die if I hit it normally, I avoided direct blows by repelling with the knife, avoided it, and took a distance. On the other hand, Shishou was smiling while opening her mouth wide.

<Good... aren't you good!? I didn't expect that you had become this strong!>  
(Shishou)

"Me too! Now, I really understood Shishou's strength!" (Sirius)

I could understand that because we met in this way.

I was completely being played around in the previous life, and I really couldn't let Shishou display all of her abilities.

If I knew this hopeless difference, I might have given up to become stronger.

And then, when the tip of the knives hit each other, the forces competed with each other, and our movements stopped for a moment.

However, as soon as our knives bounced and thrown in the air, I took a step forward and grabbed Shishou's neck with right hand.

After that, it would be my win if I crushed it, but Shishou also grabbed my neck, and we were prepared to unleash magic at anytime with other hands on each other's chest.

And when my and Shishou's knives fell to the ground in a distant away, I let out a small breath.

"Is this a draw? I thought I could win this time..." (Sirius)

<No, it is because this figure is temporary. Even if you defeat me now, the next one will kill you. Hehehe...> (Shishou)

"Don't say such a scary thing. Or perhaps I should say, that's childish..." (Sirius)

Really... she didn't change at all.

There was no mistake in what Shishou had said since how Shishou appeared before me by the overflowing light from the existence called the Holy Tree. It seemed her body was a temporary body made by mana.

As I wryly smile, we let go of each other's neck while she made a happy smile. And then, we softly bumped our fists.

—

After the fight with Shishou ended, when I returned to where my disciples were, Hokuto assaulted my chest and rubbed his nose.

"Oops!? Seriously... Are you still afraid of Shishou even if you become that

body?” (Sirius)

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

Well, it was a psychological disorder engraved when he was a puppy, so it was understandable since Shisou was out of standard in various ways.

While stroking the head to calm him down, the disciples, who were dumbfoundedly watching my fight, approached with confused look.

It seemed that they were still shaken due to Shishou’s bloodlust and intimidation, but Emilia, who recovered first among them, asked me earnestly.

“Uhhh... Sirius-sama? If I didn’t heard wrongly, that person is your Shishou...” (Emilia)

“Yes, that’s right. She was the Shishou who taught me fight and how to live. She departed when I was small, but I’m not sure why she is in this such a place.” (Sirius)

“Is that before you picked us up?” (Emilia)

“There are a lot of things to be concerned about, but now let’s head there to finish the talk...” (Sirius)

“...Please forgive me for asking too much.” (Emilia)

When I turned around after stroking Emilia’s head who understood my feelings, I saw Shishou was sitting on a chair made by the root of the tree grown from the ground.

Looking at how Shishou proudly lie on her back with legs outstretched, it made me involuntarily think.

“Shishou, your manners are bad, you know.” (Sirius)

<Oh my. Is that what you want to say to your Shishou whom you met for the first time in a while? Your habit of scolding didn’t change even after you died.> (Shishou)

“That’s because you look sloppy. If I had to say that, that was your fault.” (Sirius)

<Is that so? Well, instead of standing up there and speak, come over here,

and let's talk.> (Shishou)

She also still hadn't change when the place became inconvenient.

Shishou said I didn't change even if died, but looking from my side, I thought that Shishou wasn't the one didn't change at all.

As I deeply sigh, the root of the tree grew from our surroundings and a big table and a number of chairs were made.

<All of you can sit down. However, I can't guarantee the comfort.> (Shishou)

"Uhhh..." (Emilia)

"Is it... alright to sit down, Aniki?" (Reus)

"It's tiresome if you do not sit down." (Sirius)

When I didn't hesitate to sit down and face Shishou, the disciples nervously asked and sit on the other chairs.

When I noticed, the figures of the Elders who were waiting around were gone, and the remaining people were the attendant-like Elder who led us earlier and the three Elders who couldn't move because they were wrapped by the roots.

And then, she asked tea for several number of people from the attendant Elder while yawning.

The disciples gradually calmed down due to the slacken appearance that unleashed bloodlust earlier.

<First off, let's calm down by drinking tea first. Ichigo, I will send you flying if you pull out your hands.> (Shishou) (TLN: The name is 一号, it can mean No. 1)

"Understood." (Ichigo)

"Ichigo? Why such a name..." (Sirius)

<They are people with similar appearances, so I named them accordingly.> (Shishou)

"Say, Aniki, that strange name is..." (Reus)

<Haa?> (Shishou)

“Hiii!?” (Reus)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

Shishou’s naming sense was nonexistent after all. And if you carelessly poke, she would snap without reason, just like now.

Shishou’s anger was clearly heard even with that small voice and not only Reus, Hokuto also hid behind my back.

<Good grief... it is a pity when your body is the only splendid part. Now, you may want to ask a lot of things, but I wonder what should I explain first...>  
(Shishou)

“Yes, there are many things I want to ask from Shishou. But first, I want to know why you called this woman... Fia.” (Sirius)

<That Elf, is it? I called her because I have something to give, but first, let me apologize...?> (Shishou)

“What did you say!?” (Sirius)

That Shishou never apologized even when she stopped my heart... and she said sorry now.... what!?

I instinctively looked up at the sky, but even though I couldn’t see the Holy Tree’s branches, rather than a meteor, I was wondering whether a spear was going to fall down.

“Uhhh... Seiki-sama. Why Seiki-sama need to apologize to me?” (Fia)

“That’s because the fools that are bound over there. As for taking you by force, they seem have done other things.> (Shishou)

“Shishou, I barely understand what’s going on. Please explain step-by-step.”  
(Sirius)

<I’m not good at explaining. First of all, I... you know, as the Holy Tree, I have an obligation to give something to the Elves that meet the conditions.>  
(Shishou)

Shishou made a circle on her palm and produced a small thing. She was playing it like a coin toss with fingers.



<This is my seed. I send the Elders to give this to you, but that fools over there behaving recklessly...> (Shishou)

“You mean that they attacked Fia? But why they were trying to kill her?”  
(Sirius)

“They were individuals with unusually high pride. Maybe because they couldn’t forgive that she was belonged to other man. Although they are looking like that, those fools are no more than ten years old...> (Shishou)

““““Ten years old!?”””” (Emilia/Reus/Reese)

The surprised voices of the disciples rang out.

Although the Elders had decades of childhood, no matter how we looked at the Elders that we fought, we saw them nothing but as adults.

<The Elder Elves are the existence created to protect the Holy Tree. The necessary thing about them is a ready fire-power soldier, so the time as children and rich emotions are meaningless.> (Shishou)

“Can, can I ask a question? How do you... create them?” (Fia)

<It like a *pop* from the root of the tree... It’s too bad, there is a period to produce them, so I can’t show it right now.> (Shishou)

It was too broad and I didn’t really understand the meaning, but it looked to think that the Holy Tree was like a queen bee or queen ant that produced its own pieces. However, the standard and the scale were overwhelmingly different.

<Maybe because of that, only the Elders who lack of emotion were born. There are almost unsociable like that Ichigo over there, but occasionally, people who devoted to the greed like those fools are born.> (Shishou)

Therefore, the feelings for death and brethren were weak.

This was my conjecture, but the Elders who assaulted us were having particularly strong desire.

“I understood the reason for attacking us, but why does Shishou want to hold them on your own?” (Sirius)

<Well... the Inu-chan over there. Was the Elder Elves strong?> (Shishou) (TLN: Inu is dog, but I don't want to put it as Dog-chan.)

"-chan... you mean me!? Ehmm, they are very strong." (Reus)

<They are the soldiers who protect the Holy Tree, so it is normal. However, the Elders can only show their strength when they are under the extent of my protection.> (Shishou)

It seemed that the extent of her protection reached the grassland which located before entering Fia's hometown.

As far as being able to receive the protection, their physical strength and mana were inexhaustible. Therefore, unless I sever their necks, it wasn't possible to defeat them because they were completely unable to be annihilated.

In exchange to the abilities that almost close to irregular, the Elders who went outside the range of protection would rapidly debilitate. Apparently, they would die after several days.

I see... after knowing that much, I could guess the reason why that Elder wanted her.

"In other words, if they have that seed, they would be safe even outside the range of protection?" (Sirius)

"That's correct. And if they win over the Elves as well, they can live outside even if they leave me.> (Shishou)

"...Wait a sec. Do Elves also require protection?" (Sirius)

<That's because the Elves' blood are mixed, so it's normal, you know? Well, unlike the Elder, their abilities and consumption are low, so they will be alright for about ten years.> (Shishou)

New information about Elves were revealed one after another.

I looked at Fia, but she shook her head as if she didn't know.

"So, that is the reason why we have to return in ten years after we go on a trip. After that, we have to stay in the forest for ten years, and even if I don't have reason, we must not leave the forest..." (Fia)

According to Fia, there were many Elves who went out on a journey that hadn't returned yet.

Most of it was probably because they were attacked by monsters and people, but perhaps, they were Elves who couldn't return because they were weakened.

Now, there was another reason known why the Elves were rarely found outside.

"Shishou, have you given that seed to others?" (Sirius)

<This is my first time to give it in my generation. The last time was... Ichigo, do you remember?> (Shishou)

"About two hundred years ago, it was given to a male Elf name Rodwell. That lively child has unusual curiosity." (Ichigo)

A nostalgic name came out in such a place. It turned out that he went outside for over a hundred years and he was active at the same time.

Well, let's leave that matter for now. Right now, I should ask nothing else but the seed.

"Shishou. What happened to Fia if she gets the seed?" (Sirius)

<This seed is there to preserve her. You don't have to worry because the consciousness will never get taken over. However, her body will transform even though the mana and physical strength won't be inexhaustible like the Elders.> (Shishou)

"...Is there anything else?" (Sirius)

<Of course. The Elves who got this seed will be assimilated with the Holy Tree before they died and they will become the next Holy Tree like me. By taking in the seed, it will bring her closer to the existence of the Holy Tree.> (Shishou)

As I expected, it wasn't talk with good stuff only.

However, that was from the point of view of human race. What was important was Fia, an Elf. Besides, we still didn't know anything about the Holy Tree.

I looked at Fia again, and rather than being afraid, she was wonderingly tilting her head.

“So, why me?” (Fia)

<The reason is hard to explain. It seems that there are various information and experience influencing the Holy Tree. And it is suitable for a child who has vigorous curiosity and have looked at the outside world.> (Shishou)

“Vigorous curiosity... is it? That’s a right way to say about Fia-san.” (Emilia)

“You’re right. She is not proud, and I am confident about her curiosity.”  
(Reese)

“Uhhh, I don’t think about bragging, but...” (Fia)

<Anyway, a child like you is perfect. It was impossible for the Elves who only stay inside the forest.> (Shishou)

Everyone’s tension was considerably unraveled with Shishou’s informal way of talking.

I also had that feeling. It seemed that Fia was going to get the seed from her current condition, but... would that be alright?

“Say, Fia. I am somehow thinking about it, but are you really going to accept the seed? You don’t even know what will happen when you are assimilated with the Holy Tree, right?” (Sirius)

<As for the Holy Tree, you will pass seeds to the worthy Elves, give birth to Elder in order to protect yourself, and if there are people who are doing foolish things, you can kick them away regardless of races.> (Shishou)

Wasn’t it too relaxed?

No... Shishou was optimistic.

When I looked the side, that Ichigo Elder, who was listening to the conversation while making the tea, was somewhat sighing.

“No, I mean, there should be more important things, right? No matter how I look at it, the Holy Tree is an indispensable existence in this world...” (Sirius)

<You are certainly right. But, it is good enough just to monitor almost all the time. If you get bored, you can look for next Elves and force them.> (Shishou)

“That’s too relaxed, Shishou! If she assimilated, won’t something bad happen?” (Sirius)

“Hehehe, I’m happy that you are worried, but I’m fine, Sirius. I would be lying if I’m not worried at all, but I think that this is an honor for Elves. That’s why I think that I will accept it.” (Fia)

“...Is that so? If you have decided, I will not say anything more.” (Sirius)

“Besides, without this, I have to go back to the village on a regular basis. If that is the case, I won’t be able to stand by your side. So, since there is still hundreds of years before I become the Holy Tree... I don’t have many reasons to feel hesitated.” (Fia)

In that situation, I would have to live near Fia’s village, but Fia wouldn’t like it if she held me back.

“If it so... what do you usually do as the Holy Tree?” (Sirius)

<Basically, it is only sleeping. If there is no abnormality, I will wake up for several days once in a few decades. I was about to give up because nothing happened, but I sensed your approaching reaction and I woke up two days ago.> (Shishou)

Other than abnormal situation, she only woke up to give seeds, huh?

But, even if she could perceive mana, she asked someone to find Elf like Fia even though she couldn’t perceive the nature. To be brief, she secretly sent an Elder to observe her.

<I forgot to mention, but she probably won’t succeed the Holy Tree because there are other Elves who received the seeds other than you, so I will only choose from there.> (Shishou)

“You should say that first!” (Sirius)

“A-ahaha... if that’s the case, there is no problem to accept it.” (Fia)

In this way, Fia decided to accept the seed. After that, she sat back once and bowed to Shishou.

“Seiki-sama. I...Shemifia humbly accept the seed.” (Fia)

<Is that so? Come.> (Shishou)

She was being unfair when I compared myself to Fia!

More importantly, this kind of development was...

“Haa!” (Fia)

The moment Shishou shook her hand, I reflexively extended my hand in front of Fia, and made a fist.

Everyone was surprised with that movement, but they were convinced when they looked at the seed that master had on my palm.

“Goodness, please properly hand it over if you want to give. It was too rough!” (Sirius)

<Since it would be the same once she gulps it, it is quicker to be done that way, right?> (Shishou)

“I told you, don’t throw it as if you are trying to attack her! Do you want to pierce her throat!?” (Sirius)

With Shishou’s strength, it wasn’t weird to make a stone thrown like a bullet. The seed wasn’t that hard, but I felt a bit pain from the impact of the grasp, so... I wanted her to stop there since it chilled my liver.

I handed the seed to Fia who had a bitter smile. On the other hand, Emilia was naturally smiling as she saw the interaction between me and Shishou.

“Hehe... That’s rare for Sirius-sama. Seiki-sama is truly Sirius-sama’s Shishou.” (Emilia)

<Aah, that’s right. I have been associated with this guy more than ten years because he hated to lose. Well, I’ve taught him various things.> (Shishou)

“Although I hate her for being unreasonable, yes I was taught by her...” (Sirius)

“Various things... eh? More than ten years... is it? But the time when I met Sirius-sama was...” (Emilia)

It seemed that Emilia noticed that the conversation was strange.

Considering that I was more than ten years old after being born, I had already met the siblings before that.

Although Emilia had been watching me forever, she probably thought that it was strange for not noticing the existence of such a hardcore Shishou.

<Oh? Could it be that you haven't told them you were reincarnated?>  
(Shishou)

"Yeah. That's because I'm already Sirius." (Sirius)

""...Reincarnated?"" (Emilia/Reese/Reus)

I lived almost 60 years old in the previous life. As for a baby in this world, I didn't tell the disciples about the reincarnation. I had told them that all my abnormal growth and knowledge were from dreams.

I didn't really meant to conceal it because it was easier to convince the surrounding people.

Besides... I wasn't a man of the previous life, but I was Sirius now. I already considered the me in the previous life was a different person.

<Aren't you a fool? Rather than disciples, you shouldn't hide that from people who fall in love with you. Won't it hurt the relationship if you treat them in that way?> (Shishou)

"Yeah... that was splendid talk that guide me as a disciple. Honestly, if that smile that is full with curiosity is not there, I will also be deceived..." (Sirius)

<Why do I have to hide it!?!> (Shishou)

"Aah fine. I got it already, so please calm down. Yeah... this is also a good opportunity." (Sirius)

After that, I told my confused disciples about my previous life.

I was born in another world. I met Shishou and I was trained. I lived through a job called Agent...

<Heh... that child who hate to lose become like that, huh? Do you remember how many people have you killed?> (Shishou)

"Please be silent, Shishou." (Sirius)

I retired to train my disciples and the story ended when I passed away after I was more than 60 years old.

Now.. I wonder what kind of reaction the disciples had after knowing this fact?

As I was waiting while somehow nervous, Fia smiled and nodded in satisfaction.

“Yeah... to be honest, there are many things that I don’t know because of strange talks, but I was able to understand in many ways. Although I met you when you were a child, that reliable back and words were of course natural.”  
(Fia)

“Me too, I thought when I met him for the first time, it felt like my father. Now, I’m pretty convinced.” (Reese)

“Aniki... are you really a Jii-chan?” (Reus)

“My body is a proper youngster body, right? However... Do you really believe that? I mean it is a crazy story about different world, so if you look at the details, I should be a 70 years old man, you know?” (Sirius)

“Ahaha. When looking at the strange behavior and strength from your side, it will also make you believe it.” (Fia)

“Besides, Sirius-san said it himself, right? Sirius-san is Sirius-san. I don’t really understand about the previous life, but the one we love is... the current Sirius-san.” (Reese)

“Whether Aniki is Jii-chan or not, Aniki is my respected Aniki who is also my big goal!” (Reus)

I thought that there would be nothing but to be hated. However, my heart got lighter because they were smiling and accepted the fact.

I felt a bit bad because I didn’t talk about this in the past. When I lightly bowed, Emilia, who was quiet since earlier, looked at me with sad eyes.

“What’s wrong, Emilia? If you want to say something, just say it.” (Sirius)

“Uhm, Sirius-sama... Do you want to go back to the previous world?” (Emilia)



I thought about it several times when I was born in this world. Having my disciples as partners, and a woman became anxious, but... I had already decided.

As for returning to the the other world...

“I am already Sirius and I am a different person. Therefore, I don’t think that I want to go back. More importantly, it is because you guys are here.” (Sirius)

“...Yes! As for me, I have nothing to do with the previous life. If I can stay by Sirius-sama’s side... that is good enough.” (Emilia)

Apparently, she was quite worried.

When I stroked her head while apologizing, Emilia clung to my arm and play-biting.

<Hmm... you make a woman fall in love until that much, huh? After I am gone, you have become a womanizer, isn’t it?> (Shishou)

<Shishou. Read the mood.” (Sirius)

<What is it!? You cheeky!> (Shishou)

She attacked me by hurling a seed since she was upset, but I moved my neck to avoid it and picked it up with my hand.

‘Don’t you attack with this valuable thing to the Elves, you know.’

By the way, when Shihou gave up since she couldn’t hit me, Reus, who was alternately looking at me and Shishou, made a strange expression.

“Excuse me... Can I ask something, Shishou-san?” (Reus)

<What is it, Inu-chan?> (Shishou)

“It is about knowing the other world and reincarnation. Are Aniki and Shishou-san people from that side?” (Reus)

<That’s incorrect. I am originally a people of this world. Look, didn’t I said that the Elves will assimilated with the Holy Tree?> (Shishou)

“No, I mean whether you became like that after being assimilated...” (Reus)

<Hmmm... Is there such a thought? Well, anyway, I was an Elf who originally

lived in this world. I had experimented a lot and I went to the other since I could make magic formation to go to different worlds.> (Shishou)

Reus asked something that I wanted to hear.

Although Shishou's personality was like that, it seemed that she was an existence of a so-called genius. Taking advantage of the longevity of the Elves, she brought her martial arts and magic abilities to the extreme while wandering around the world.

When she returned to her hometown, she continued doing research on magic formation for nearly a hundred years, and she accidentally created magic formations to cross to other worlds.

I was wondering what was with that strength in the previous life and was that also the reason why the appearance didn't change just because she was an Elf? The characteristics of the ears was probably hidden with magic or something.

"...I guess that you have made a lot of such magic formations. I have a feeling that it is dangerous, so you properly hide it, right?" (Sirius)

<The magic formation explodes and disappear without a trace every time I use it, so you don't have to worry since it is complicated for fools to draw that magic formations. More importantly... there isn't enough mana for invocation.> (Shishou)

"How much is necessary?" (Sirius)

<It is enough to keep pouring mana to everyone in this world for several years. By the way, I arbitrarily asked the Holy Tree for its fruit once in one thousand years.> (Shishou)

Unless she borrowed that much mana... it was impossible to go to other worlds.

<Well, after that, I hanged around on the other world, and I came back after I picked you up and trained you. No... when I came back here, the predecessor was angry.> (Shishou)

No, that wasn't the level of being angry anymore.

Aside from that, it seemed that the fruit of the Holy Tree was shattered in

small pieces when she came back to this world.

Well... with such a background, Shishou succeeded the Holy Tree several decades ago until now.

Although she said that she succeeded, I judged that she was forced to take the responsibilities.

“I can’t really catch up with the story already.” (Emilia)

“But, I guess Shihou-san did something and that’s why Aniki came here, right?” (Reus)

<Aah, that’s right. Don’t thank me, Inu-chan. I drew magic formations directly on that disciple’s and wolf’s bodies, so that they would come over here when they die.> (Shishou)

“Before that... Do you remember such a thing?” (Sirius)

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

<When I made a mistake in adjusting the strength, I put it on you while you were in almost dying condition.> (Shishou)

In the previous life, I noticed that my disciples and partner told me that there was a strange birthmark on my back.

At that time, there were a lot of scars on my back due to the fight against Shishou, so I thought that it was a scar, but... was it a magic formation?

This was probably my imagination, but should I ask about it?

“Say, Shishou. Why did you make reincarnated into this world? Was it because you want me to do something for you?” (Sirius)

<No, there is not such a thing.> (Shishou)

“I understood that, but there is really nothing, huh? Isn’t whimsy Shishou’s strong point?” (Sirius)

<That’s also true, but you were pitiful. It is because that you unrelentingly fought me and you never taste childhood and the lifetime of a youth. That was why I tried to make you reincarnate as an experiment. By the way, that dog is a bonus.> (Shishou)

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

“...Is it because a pity? Since you decided that for me, I would like to say that there is no reason for Shishou to sympathize, but...” (Sirius)

But... I was reincarnated like this and I had fulfilling days while surrounded by the disciples and lovers.

Although I couldn't honestly thank you when I remembered the hell of the previous life... it seemed that I could say it now.

“...Thank you, Shishou.” (Sirius)

“...Woof!” (Hokuto)

<Well, I don't understand the meaning of being a parent, but you never had a thing like parent...> (Shishou)

“Good grief. Didn't you think of us as convenient toys or as emergency rations?” (Sirius)

<...Well, was there anything else?> (Shishou)

“You should deny that!” (Sirius)

“Yelp!?” (Hokuto)

I wanted to say thanks but the relationship between me and Shisou was like this after all.

—

## **The Olden Days of Hokuto**

This was a story about when Hokuto wasn't a Hundred Wolves but an ordinary dog.

Hokuto-kun, who was on the verge of dying, was picked up by the Master in the previous life. When the wound was healed, Hokuto-kun waited for the return of the Master who went out for hunting.

And then, when a sound was heard from the entrance, Hokuto-kun went to greet while wagging its tail, but...

“Hmm, this wine has a considerable taste...” (Shishou)

The one that came back earlier was the Shishou who went out to drink in a downtown.

At that time, Hokuto-kun wasn't scared of Shishou yet, so he would play with Shishou's feet.

“Hmm... Considerable...” (Shishou)

And then, Shishou hugged Hokuto-kun. She soaked him in a bucket filled with water and started washing him.

The master also washed Hokuto-kun in the same way, so he loved it at that time.

She washed him even though it was slightly rough, so when he was happily wagging its tail... the tail suddenly raised up.

“First off... should I slice into a reasonable size?” (Shishou)

“*Yelp!*?” (Hokuto)

At that moment, Hokuto-kun's wild instinct awakened.

“Taking out the internal organs before boiling with hot water... oh yeah, I have to prepare a miso soup.” (Shishou)

“*Yelp, yelp!*?” (Hokuto)

He was really in desperate situation.

Since Hokuto-kun was held by Shishou, he couldn't escape.

But then... an angel descended.

“I'm back! Good boy—... what are you doing, Shisou!?” (Sirius)

“I was thinking about making a miso soup. I feel like drinking it after having sake.” (Shishou)

“Do not try to eat my family! Or rather, that's not a miso, that is a pickle!” (Sirius) (TLN: It is Nukazuke)

“Well, I leave it to you. If miso soup is impossible, I want a dog stew.” (Shishou)

“Stop joking around!” (Sirius)

“*Yelp!*?” (Hokuto)

And at present, Hokuto-kun finished talking to Reus about that part of the horror experience.

“You called me Inu-chan, so... are you going to eat me too!?” (Reus)

“...Woof!” (Hokuto)

“Calm down! She is a tree now, so she can’t eat you.” (Sirius)

<What are you talking about? I can eat it after taking by the roots, like the foolish Elder over there.> (Shishou)

“Anikiiii—!” (Reus)

“*Yelp!*?” (Hokuto)

“I told you, don’t hide behind my back!” (Sirius)

—

TLN:

- The title is a bit long because I’m not sure how to make it short.

## Chapter 116 – The Extremely Free Person

“Here you go” (Ichigo)

As Shishou’s explanation was finally ended, we felt a bit thirsty, and the tea brewed by the attendant Elder was prepared on the table.

It seemed that it was a tea using flowers blooming only around the Holy Tree, and the fragrant scent made us naturally smile.

“What a good scent... it calms the mind.” (Reese)

“The taste is also very delicious. If it is alright, would you share the tea, please?” (Emilia)

“Don’t mind about it if you have the permission from Seiki-sama.” (Ichigo)

It was a delicious tea with a very good taste and faint sweetness.

The tea leaves were also good in quality, but what most important was the brewing technique that made the taste better. Since Shishou was very particular when it came to drinking tea, there was no mistake that this attendant Elder seemed to be trained to do it.

It was a delicious enough tea if it was for us, but Shishou looked at the tea while frowning.

<Hmm... although it is slight, there is a disorder in the scent. Were you concern about something while brewing it?> (Shishou)

“Please forgive me. Since there was someone who was slightly looking when I performed my duty, I was a bit disturbed.” (Ichigo)

<Don’t be bothered with such a thing. Goodness, you’re not having enough training.> (Shishou)

“It may be because of you...” (Sirius)

While scolding Shishou who didn’t even think that she was bad, how did Shishou drink tea?

Apparently, a cup was prepared in front of Shishou, but since the Shishou before me was a temporary body made with mana, I didn't think she could taste it by drinking it.

Whether the disciples felt the same, when we curiously watching it, the attendant Butler recovered the cup he placed before Shishou...

<Hmm... The fragrance was regrettable but the taste was so so.> (Shishou)

"I feel ashamed." (Ichigo)

He approached the Holy Tree and spill the tea on the root.

Although it was certainly drinkable, that was a bother.

Was Shishou enjoying the mood and the scent on the table made with the root with the one that placed before her? And the taste should be tasted at the root of the Holy Tree.

I had a feeling that it would be the same if the tea was spilt on the table since it was also a root, but I guessed that it was Shishou's insistence.

"...Aniki." (Reus)

"I am also concerned, but leave it alone. It would be troublesome if you get involved." (Sirius)

He was satisfied with that explanation, so that was good.

—

As we enjoyed the tea while switching from such unspeakable mood, Shishou turned a sharp look at me after looking at the bound Elders.

<By the way... I forgot to leave the punishment decision to you.> (Shishou)

"Wait a sec, what kind of punishment?" (Sirius)

<What are you saying? It is about the Elders over there.> (Shishou)

Aah... yes.

It was unavoidable, but I took away two lives of the Elder Elves.

It was cause by other Elder, but all of them had to take some responsibilities.

"Yes, I understand how it is with the anger when Fia was done by them. If



there is a punishment, I will obediently accept it.” (Sirius)

<That’s fine. Well then, what shall I do...> (Shishou)

“Please wait, Seiki-sama!” (Fia)

As I was waiting for Shishou’s punishment since I was already prepared for it, Fia, who was sitting, stood up, came before Shishou and knelt down.

“On this occasion, originally it was started when I left the village without permission and brought the Elder Elves-sama anger. Therefore, I should receive the punishment instead of Sirius.” (Fia)

“Fia...” (Sirius)

“If my Master bears the sin, it is the same for the attendant... if you punish Sirius-sama, please do it to me too.” (Emilia)

“I am so swinging my sword with the intention of killing, so I am the same as Aniki!” (Reus)

“We are all in this together...” (Reese)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

When I realized it, everyone except me was kneeling in front of Shishou and they lowered their head.

The one who did it was me, so it was fine if they all were not at fault, but... this was troubling.

It was true that it made me happy. While I was wondering how to call them out, Shishou opened her mouth wide and laughed.

<Hahaha! I like what you have done so far.> (Shishou)

“Well... They are my disciples, my friends, and my lovers. Therefore, Shishou, if there is punishment... it will be only me...” (Sirius)

<There is no such thing.> (Shishou)

“...Haa?” (Emilia/Reus/Reese/Fia)

“Woof?” (Hokuto)

The disciples and Hokuto were confused with the obvious words from

Shishou.

Goodness... I had predicted that, but it was as I expected, huh?

<There is no punishment. Rather, if I am angry, I want to say it to those guys.>  
(Shishou)

“Uhm? In other words... you are not angry when Sirius-sama completely annihilated them?” (Emilia)

<If you are invited for a fight, you can completely ignore it or retaliate back. And if the opponent tries to kill you with no good reason, you certainly need to kill them... and that what I taught him. Although it was terrible to let three of them escape.> (Shishou)

“That is true, but isn’t the Elders an existence that Shishou created? I wonder how should I think if it is about killing them without reserve...” (Sirius)

<Even if they are children born by me, it is necessary to punish those who don’t follow the rules. You understand that the most, right?> (Shishou)

“Well... yes.” (Sirius)

They tried to kill the Elves who were also the gatekeeper of the forest here, and he tried to kill Fia who already caught Shishou’s eyes.

Shishou, who knew enough how important the gatekeeper was, would never forgot what those fools had done.

<In any case, I’m not blaming you. Rather, it was my fault to produce such fools. Hey, you guys go back to your seats.> (Shishou)

“...Understood.” (Sirius)

“O-ouu!” (Reus)

<Now, shall we finish the talk? Do you guys have anything to say?> (Shishou)

And then, when Shishou asked the Elders who were bound by the root of the tree, the leader-like Elder was groaning and begging for Shishou.

“Seiki-sama. It is wrong for us to use the power in such a place.” (??)

<Is that what those who have lost my protection want to say? Besides, I am shocked because you are not saying anything about killing the Elves without

reasons.> (Shishou)

“Seiki...-sama...” (??)

<Moreover, no matter how I think, you all are my protector. I don't need those who don't follow my order.> (Shishou)

When Shishou swung her fingers while she was amazed, the root of the tree began to cover the face of the Elders.

And then, they were completely captured and integrated with the root. The Elders, who became the object of the root, emitted faint lights, and Shishou kept staring with a slight calm mood.

<Do not forget your duty when you are reborn next time...> (Shishou)

—

In this way, the punishment for the Elders in which they returned to the Holy Tree had ended. Shishou, then, talked to the attendant Elder as if to change the mood.

“Now, explain this to the Elves next. Ichigo, go to the village and explain to them. Tell them that the Elf over there receives the protection of the Holy Tree and that man who killed the Elders is forgiven. Hence, those two are not criminals.> (Shishou)

“Certainly.” (Ichigo)

“I am saved because you make things better.” (Sirius)

<It's not a big deal if giving this much information. This is the end of my part, so what are you going to do now?> (Shishou)

“Well...” (Sirius)

Since the day was already late, even if we go back to Fia's house with the guide of the attendant butler, we would arrive late at night.

If it was Shishou, I didn't she would say anything if we spend overnight here, but... it seemed that it would be better to go back.

When I was about to say that we should head back, Reese and the siblings

broke up to interrupt me.

“Hei, Aniki. You were able to meet your Shishou with trouble, so shall we stay around here today?” (Reus)

“Yeah. I also think that you have a lot of things to say, and I also think that she doesn’t mind.” (Reese)

“I have brought camping tools, so what are you going to do, Sirius-sama?” (Emilia)

Fia didn’t say anything, but it seemed that she also wanted to stay from the state of everyone.

Whether the Elders were told by Shishou, rather than showing hostility, they were not interested about us. Since there were no dangerous monsters came to this area, we shouldn’t be attacked...

“Do you want to stay?” (Sirius)

“Ou! I want to fight Aniki’s Shishou once!” (Reus)

Although Reus was telling a honest answer, the woman tend to look away. I guessed that they wanted to hear about my previous life from Shishou.

It was certainly true that I was glad to see Shishou again, but on the other, there was a part of me that really didn’t want to get involved. Since Shishou acted rashly when she made mistakes, I was concerned about the safety of my disciples.

But well... this was also an experience, right?

“Got it. Shishou, will it be fine if we stay overnight in this area?” (Sirius)

<Do what you want. But there is no vacant house because the Elders live everywhere in this area, you know?> (Shishou)

“The Holy Tree itself is like a roof and since we have our own tent, we will be fine.” (Sirius)

—

After the attendant Elder headed to the village of the Elves, we took down the baggage that Hokuto had carried and started preparing for the camp.

If it was a normal situation, fire was strictly prohibited when near trees, but it was used extensively when the attendant Elder was making tea. Besides, since we were told that the Holy Tree couldn't be burn with the degree of fire needed for cooking, we started fire and cooked without reservation.

As we were preparing soup with dried meats and wild vegetables which could be picked up around here, Shishou was standing with arms crossed facing Reus who was grasping his sword in a slightly opened space.

Reus said earlier that he wanted to fight Shishou, and since she acknowledged it, they seemed going for it immediately.

"Please take care of me!" (Reus)

<Hmm, come at me from anywhere.> (Shishou)

I tried to stop him from fighting Shishou, but Reus stubbornly wanted to taste the strength of Shishou.

For that reason, I advised him to fight with full power and asked him to give priority to defense rather than attacking. I told Shishou many times that she shouldn't kill or overdoing this, but... honestly, I was worried.

It would be good if he could leave with just bone fractures, but...

"Dorashaaaa—!" (Reus)

<It is a considerable sword, but it is not enough!> (Shishou)

Shishou swept the sword that Reus swung down with full power with a flat hand like slapping bugs. She, then, grabbed Reus' hand and threw him on the ground.

Reus, who had his sword repelled so easily, was surprised, and Shishou overlooked him with a ferocious smile.

Well... that was it.

I forgot to tell Reus, but I hoped that he would fully appreciate it anyway.

And then, while the intense sound echoed from the battle between Shishou and Reus, Emilia was making tea with a serious expression next to me.

"...Yeah, it is something like this. After that, warming up the cup..." (Emilia)

“Don’t keep it at it too much, you know? It would be endless if you get involved with Shishou.” (Sirius)

“No, as an attendant to Sirius-sama, it is natural to satisfy Shishou-sama.” (Emilia)

After the attendant Elder headed to the village of the Elves, Shishou decided to take a closer look at Emilia, and she suddenly told her to make tea.

Whether it was the blood as an attendant, Emilia was nervous about making tea after assuming the responsibility.

Truthfully, I didn’t want to let her get involved with Shishou and tea, but there was no reason to stop Emilia.

As I stir the soup while cheering Emilia on the inside, Reese, who was helping me cooking, became harden when looking at another place.

“Ouchhh!? Why it is so easy... my arms!” (Reus)

<Hahaha! There is no rope!> (Shishou)

“What do you mean by rope!? Gyaahhhaa!” (Reus)

Looking at where Reese was looking, Reus was knocked down by Shishou and it was caused by an arm lock technique.

Shishou merely avoided Reus’ sword until earlier, but it seemed that she had read everything of his movement.

“Uhhh, Sirius-san. Reus is...” (Reese)

“It is still fine if it is that much. It only hurts.” (Sirius)

It was one of the techniques she did it to me many times in the previous life. In other words, Shishou was only playing when she attacked like that.

Although it was considerable painful whenever he was done with the technique, I honestly commended Reus’ guts for not releasing his sword no matter what.

At that time, after finished preparing tea, Emilia presented it to Shishou who was sitting in front of the table.

Incidentally, Reus was playing with the Shishou’s second body, and the first

one was here. Since it was a temporary body, it seemed possible to have two to three people at the same time.

Seeing a number of Shishous at the same time... it seemed that I would go crazy if I saw like this in the previous life.

<What kind of tea leaves did you use?> (Shishou)

“It is a flower called Ouka that I got during the journey. This is Sirius-sama’s favorite.” (Emilia)

<Hmm... the scent is not so bad. Well, then. Pour it on the root.> (Shishou)

Having told that by Shishou, Emilia approached the Holy Tree and poured the tea. That was a surreal scene no matter how many times I saw it.

And then, Shishou, who tasted the tea (?) with eyes closed, slowly opened her eyes and looked at Emilia.

<...Thirty points.> (Shishou)

“!?” (Emilia)

Because of the evaluation lower than the expectation, Emilia took a step backward while being shocked. It was a feeling of a thunder fell behind and receiving a shock that was always seen in manga or tales.

“Wh-why? The teaware is warmed well, and I did it thoroughly to the last drop...” (Emilia)

<The temperature is bad! The hot water is at 95 degrees and what’s with the angle when you poured the tea!? There are also times when the taste is too smeared, and it becomes no good. Plus, the oxygen contained in water is also important!> (Shishou)

“Wh-wha!? I don’t really understand, but to notice it that much...” (Emilia)

<You got wrong determination when drinking tea! For me, if you take out unsavory tea, I will drink tea with the determination to destroy a town!> (Shishou)

That was a nuisance determination.

Whether she actually had destroyed a city was not certain, but I had heard

those words even in the previous life. Even when listening to it again, I still felt that it was strange.

<Did you get that? The bubbles that come out just before boiling is...>  
(Shishou)

“Yes! That is the signal.” (Emilia)

In regard of tea, Shishou displayed a tremendous insistence, but it seemed that Emilia somehow could take it. She greedily absorbed the knowledge taught by Shishou.

<Next is this! Hey, what’s wrong?> (Shishou)

“Aaarggh!? So, why—... ouch, ouch!” (Reus)

At that time... whether Reus reached his limit as expected, he let go of his swords, so this time Shishou had decided to solidify his legs.

“Th-that’s amazing. Reus was easily dealt with up to that degree.” (Fia)

“Reus looks completely like a child. And Sirius-san was training every day with such a person...” (Reese)

“Yes, it is. I wonder how many times my heart was stopped...” (Sirius)

Reese and Fia were smiling while looking at me, but somehow I felt that look mixed with the feeling of pity.

I’d been constantly fighting such a person, and it felt mysterious even for me.

And then, Hokuto...

“Woof...” (Hokuto)

He became more afraid at Shishou, so he didn’t try to leave my side.

—

When the surrounding became dark because the night had arrived, the surroundings of the Holy Tree were bright enough to the point it didn’t require the light from the luminescent plant.

At that time, the attendant Elder came back and the dinner we made was also



finished, but the dinner couldn't be started because Emilia, whose eyes were empty because tremendous knowledge engraved in short time, and Reus who didn't move while collapsing nearby.

"The hot water is at 95 degrees... the angle during the brewing is..." (Emilia)

"Are you alright, Emilia? The meal is served... you know?" (Reese)

"Aah, it's fine. This soup... since there is no bubbles, it is not a suitable temperature for tea, isn't it?" (Emilia)

"That's why this is a meal! Get a hold of yourself, Emilia!" (Reese)

While murmuring and grumbling, Emilia, who couldn't recognize between tea and reality, had her shoulders shook by Reese.

"Hey Reus, if you don't get up soon, how are you going to have dinner?" (Fia)

"Aah... uhh... my arms... to be bend over there... stop ittt..." (Reus)

"...It's no good. There is not a single scar when I saw him. I wonder what is going on?" (Fia)

"It was an aggressive attack that went deep inside his body. He's probably trying to escape reality." (Sirius)

In other words, it could be said that his heart was broken. My heart was also broken many times in the previous life.

Anyhow, it was time for dinner, so they had to wake up soon. Since there was no response as Fia said so, I lifted up the upper body of Reus and brought him to Hokuto who was lying next to me.

"Oops... Reus also had become sluggish. Hokuto." (Sirius)

"Woof!" (Hokuto)

"Buhuuu!?! ...Eh, why is it so dark already!?" (Reus)

And when Hokuto forefoot hit Reus' cheek, he gained sanity due to a moderate impact of the palm attack.

And then, when I slowly stroke Emilia's head who still felt empty...

"The tea that suits for this soup is... ehehe..." (Emilia)

“...She really know about Sirius-san’s stroking.” (Reese)

Since she felt delighted while the tail wagged as usual, she returned to normal after I stroke him for a while.

Shishou, who was watching the scene, finally enjoyed the smell of tea Emilia brewed and muttered.

<While saying that they are your fellow disciples, the treatment is like for a pet.> (Shishou)

“By no means, I want you to understand that I’m not doing this because I like it.” (Sirius)

“Well, it doesn’t matter to me. I don’t care whether you treat them as a pet or sex slave, do whatever you like.> (Shishou)

“Shishou, for that, I can feel that it is full of maliciousness.” (Sirius)

“Ehehe... it doesn’t matter if I am Sirius-sama’s pet or even sex slave...”  
(Emilia)

“Aah... she came back.” (Sirius)

Finally, we started having the dinner when Emilia returned to normal.

It was a weird story about her drinking tea, but since Shisou was a tree, she didn’t need to eat meal. Nevertheless, since she was staring at us while we were having meals,

<I probably can have if it is a soup. Ichigo!> (Shishou)

“Haa... Understood.” (Ichigo)

<...Yup, it is not bad. But I’d like the taste if it’s a bit stronger.> (Shishou)

“Please act a bit more like the Holy Tree, you know...” (Sirius)

<That’s why I am acting as it is now!”> (Shishou)

The attendant Elder was sighing as well. I guessed that I wasn’t the only one who saw her as a selfish person. Even though it was temporary, not only the appearance was excellence, that deplorable attitude also stood out.

According to Fia, the Holy Tree was considered a sacred existence among the

ordinary Elves, but... she didn't show that appearance very much.

As we were amazed while eating the meals, Fia was raising hands with a smile.

"Seiki-sama. If you don't mind, can you tell us about Sirius when he was in a different world?" (Fia)

<Hmm? Is it about when he was a child?> (Shishou)

"I am also interested. I mean what kind of child was Sirius-san?" (Reese)

"Sirius-sama has been working hard since he was a child, so he must have been a wonderful person." (Emilia)

"Aniki had always fighting with that Shishou... and I respect that!" (Reus)

The unusual faith aimed by the siblings was embarrassing. However, I wanted them to stop having excessive expectations when it was about my childhood. In Reus' situation, he understood it since he tasted it with his own body.

And then, Shishou started talking about my life, but I didn't think of stopping her.

"...Woof." (Hokuto)

Hokuto seemed asking me whether I should stop her, but I didn't really mind.

To be honest, it was embarrassing, but I didn't want to spoil this calm mood. While stroking Hokuto's head, I listened to the conversation between Shishou and the disciples.

But...

<Which remind me, there were also times when I was attacked several times when I was sleeping. That child, who was only interested to win over me, knew that he was a man at that time.> (Shishou)

"Aa, awawa..." (Reese)

"Ehehe, he was a boy, so it couldn't be helped, right? He always welcomes me when I creep in the night." (Fia)

"Sirius-sama. If you tell me, I'll be with you anytime." (Emilia)

“Nope... I was only six years old at that time. So, I was only thinking about defeating Shishou, you know?” (Sirius)

That was the only mistake corrected.

At that time, I was young and without libido. On the contrary, her sleeping appearance wasn't that appealing, so it didn't mean that much.

Anyhow, as a result of surprise attack when she was sleeping... I was hanged on a tree until morning.

After that, Shishou's stories continued, and the disciples alternately felt rejoice and anxious every time they heard the stories.

They turned pity eyes on me when she talked about the content of training that could be considered abusive and the time when I was threw into the battlefields.

The most troublesome part was when they knew that I had no parent, Emilia and Fia offered lap pillows while looking with motherly eyes.

I spent about ten years staying together with Shishou, but... it was merely training. Shouldn't it be said as a bleak childhood?

“Ho, there is no other story, is it?” (Reus)

<Sure... when the wolf there was a dog, there were times he got lost when he walked in the forest. When that guy entered the forest to look for the dog, he also lost in the forest too, and I had found them.> (Shishou)

“Woof!?” (Hokuto)

“I see, there was such a thing for Hokuto-kun too.” (Fia?)

“Woof, woof!” (Hokuto)

“Calm down, Hokuto. It couldn't be helped since we were both children, right? By the way, it was bad because Shishou was living in the depth of mountains like this place here.” (Sirius)

After that, our talks moved here and there, and the noisy night continued on.

“The lost child Sirius-sama... it makes me want to save you.” (Emilia)

“Where did you go when you searched in the forest...” (Fia)

“Is it because of the past?” (Sirius)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

—

In the next morning... Shishou watched us when we prepared for departing.

“Thank you for your help. This is very valuable experience and it is fun.”

(Reese)

“Me too. Besides, thank you very much for teaching me various knowledges.”

(Emilia)

<Is that so? It is good if you are satisfied. It was fun for me too.> (Shishou)

“Next time, I will be able to fight you better!” (Reus)

<Hmm, work harder. At the very least, try to make use of my techniques.>

(Shishou)

“Ye-yes!” (Reese)

After talking to the siblings and Reese, Shishou slowly extended hands to Fia. She was surprised but, she exchanged handshakes with Shishou.

<You have received my seed, so take a lot around the world to your heart’s content.> (Shishou)

“Yes! Seiki-sama, let’s meet again.” (Fia)

<Hahaha! You don’t have to be reserved. Just come and see me anytime.

And...> (Shishou)

When Shishou gradually waved her hands, a branch of the length that surpassed my both hands fell from above my head, and Fia grabbed it reflexively.

That branch was largely curved, and it looked like a bow without string.

<Since the Elves will be easily targeted, this will be a weapon that can make them easily understand. Even if you don’t use it, it will be a good weapon to deter enemies.> (Shishou)

“To give me such a thing... thank you very much.” (Fia)

<Forgive me for the inconvenience. But you have to look for the string yourself.> (Shishou)

Was that a bow made of the Holy Tree branch? It should have some kind of mysterious power, right?

Lastly, Shishou looked at me and put up a smile.

That smile... it somehow felt troublesome.

<Actually, I have something I want to ask you.> (Shishou)

“Is it something troublesome? Don’t say something reasonable, alright?”  
(Sirius)

<It was about the time when I was traveling around the world. In those days, I had made various magic tools in the spur of moments while traveling. When I had the idea, I made it and leave it there. Therefore, there is a possibility it still remain in the world.> (Shishou)

“...Come to think of it, I saw one.” (Sirius)

On the altar in the town of Fonia, it was engraved with Shishou’s seal. Indeed, it was really made by Shishou.

<If you find my work in the middle of the journey, please destroy it if it is used for wrong reasons. Because it leave bad aftertaste.> (Shishou)

“Got it. Can I use my own judgment?” (Sirius)

<Yes, I will leave it to you. Besides, this is not mandatory. It is just a side talk.>  
(Shishou)

To be brief, it was not a feeling of obligation or responsibility. Shisou entrusted the judgment whether I should destroy them or not. It would be fine if I remember it in the nook of my head.

Suddenly, something flew away and when I reflexively grasped it, it was a wooden knife that Shishou used when I fought her. Perhaps I should say that if I didn’t grasp the knife, it would prick my face. Was this really the time to do that?

“What is it? Are you going to give me this, Shishou?” (Sirius)

<Aah, it's a reunion gift. Since it is a part of my body, I am confident if it's only about the sturdiness.> (Shishou)

"I understand that well. It can go against Mithril after all." (Sirius)

It was a tree shaped like a knife in a glance, but it seemed that there was unusual mana loaded into it.

Thinking that it was a part of Shishou, it felt a bit creepy, but... there was no loss to have the knife.

When I thought about it, it was the first time getting things from Shishou. I was really happy. Let's accept it without reservation.

As I thought about making a knife holder later, Shishou threw a fist with a smile, so I stuck my fist and hit it.

<You have been reborn once. I hope you will enjoy the world to the fullest.> (Shishou)

"Don't worry about it. I already enjoyed enough, and I will enjoy it with my companions from now on." (Sirius)

<I'm glad. Yes, after all, travelling is...> (Shishou)

And then, the Shishou, who had been doing her own things more than anyone when traveling around the world...

<Freedom is the best.> (Shishou)

While sending an innocent smile like a child, she saw us off.

—

### **Extra NG Scene**

The most troublesome part was when they knew that I had no parent, Emilia and Fia offered lap pillows while looking with motherly eyes.

"Sirius-sama. If you are fine with me, it will be great if you take this opportunity without hesitation. Well, here's my lap." (Emilia)

"I also can treat you like a mother. Please sleep on my lap." (Fia)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

“Well then, I choose Hokuto.” (Sirius)

““!?”” (Emilia/Fia)

—

## **Presenting Hokuto**

That day... Hokuto was facing a crucial moment.

<Dear me, will it be alright if you are not doing this together with your beloved master?> (Shishou)

“...Woof!” (Hokuto)

Hokuto-kun was trying to challenge Shishou alone.

However, Shishou was an opponent of Hokuto-kun’s mental block.

Hokuto-kun’s body was shivering even just confronted her in this way, but... he mustered his courage and raised mana.

<Hmmm... you’re really serious, huh? I didn’t think that the dog that followed behind that guy had grown this far.> (Shishou)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

“Well then, let’s go all out for a while!> (Shishou)

“Ku...kuwooonnn...” (Hokuto)

With the intimidation and bloodlust released by Shishou, Hokuto-kun saw something like revolving lantern for a moment.

The scene where Shishou extended one hand to reach out kitchen knife with a smile, and when she sharpened the knife in front of a boiling pot... everything was a symbol of fear.

Like that, he forgot everything and wanted to run away. Moreover, he was driven with the urge of being spoiled in the Master’s bosom, but...

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

Hokuto-kun took a step forward.



He was reincarnated, and he was born as a strong Hundred Wolves. It was the time to overcome fear.

<Really!? There's nothing to be embarrassed if you are afraid even when you are a Hundred Wolves!> (Shishou)

"Woof!" (Hokuto)

<Aah, I didn't really mean that. Your will... and then, the thought made you choose Hundred Wolves. I hope that you are proud.> (Shishou)

"Gurururu!" (Hokuto)

<So, do not hesitate and come!> (Shishou)

Both of them kicked the ground almost simultaneously, and then, Hokuto's claws and Shishou's knife collided.

Although it looked like a wooden knife, it wasn't ripped until now when it clashed against Hokuto-kun's claws.

However, Hokuto-kun predicted that from the battle between Shishou and the Master. So, he kept swinging claws and tail regardless of being repelled.

They were fighting a diversified battle like how Hokuto-kun fought in the depth of the forest by kicking trees and wielding mana as foothold.

However, Shishou wasn't only seen everything. While moving exactly in same way, she swung the knife and repelled Hokuto's assaults...

As the intense battle continued, Hokuto-kun and Shishou finally decided to unleash the last blow, and they took a distance from each other.

"Woof!" (Hokuto)

<Hahaha!" (Shishou)

And then, Hokuto-kun's strongest attack was unleashed...

"Hmm? I'm back, Hokuto. How was it?" (Sirius)

"Woof!" (Hokuto)

Hokuto-kun for some reason made a proud smile.

But...

<Well... he has considerably grown up. It's been a while for him to taste pain, isn't it...?> (Shishou)

*"Yelp!?"* (Hokuto)

Hokuto-kun was surprised when she suddenly approached.

—

– The preview of the next installment –

Sirius and others headed back to the village of the Elves.

And the one who waiting for the daughter was Fia's father.

With respect to such a father, Sirius confronted him with fists.

'This time... please give me your daughter.'

"Phew, with this, it's alright..." (Fia)

"Fia-san, what are you doing?" (Emilia)

"I've made a wish. This... it was on the book that I read a while ago. For two people, who become tattered, to collapse after hitting each other, it would be nice of them if they recognize each other." (Fia)

"If it is Sirius-sama, I feel like it will end in a blow." (Emilia)

"Aah..." (Fia)

"I also think the same." (Reese)

"Well... then that's fine. He will know and acknowledge Sirius' splendour."  
(Fia)

""Is that really fine!?""" (Emilia/Reese)

## Chapter 117 – Her Personality

After departing from Shishou, we headed toward the village of Elves again, which was also Fia's hometown, by the guide of the attendant Elder.

"Sorry for asking you to go back and forth several times." (Sirius)

"I don't mind. It is the meaning of my existence to follow the order of Seiki-sama." (Ichigo)

I spoke to the attendant Elder, who was leading the way, but he indifferently replied with the usual expressionless face.

When I thought whether it was impossible to have conversation, the attendant Elder looked at my face while walking and opened his mouth.

"...Since it was noisy when I was preparing the tea nearby, it made me occasionally wanted to leave." (Ichigo)

"I guess that's how you feel..." (Sirius)

It seemed that even the Elder who lacked of emotion felt troublesome because of Shishou's insistence on tea.

As a person with same experience, I sympathize with the attendant Elder from the bottom of my heart.

"But... the insistence of tea was amazing, it was tasty, isn't it?" (Reese)

"Yes, it is. Thanks to Sirius-sama, I have started polishing my tea making technique." (Emilia)

"For me, I enjoy more on the drinking side. In the situation with Seiki-sama, it was too serious and I was nervous." (Fia)

Subsequently, when I looked at the ladies who were happily talking to each other, it seemed that Fia had no problem to walk.

She should have lost considerable amount of blood due to the injuries, but... had she really recovered in two days?

“Fia. If you feel tired, you can get on Hokuto.” (Sirius)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

“Yes, thank you for being worried. But it’s alright. The body feels unusually light. This is probably because of Seiki-sama’s seed.” (Fia)

This was the area where the protection of the Holy Tree reached. Although it wasn’t similar to the extent of the Elder, there was probably some influence.

Like she said, Fia’s footsteps were unusually light. It seemed that she was in a good mood, so there was no need to worry.

After that, we came back to the village of Elves over half a day, same amount of time when we were going there. However, there were Elves waiting at the square where Elder had fought with us.

“It doesn’t seem that we are being welcomed.” (Sirius)

“Yes, it is. If I have to say it, it feels like we’re being rejected.” (Emilia)

“Their eyes didn’t really like us. But why are they looking at us like that?” (Reus)

Even if we were recognized by the Holy tree, it seemed that the outsiders like us were not welcomed after all.

However, it might be unavoidable.

The Elves were considered rare and unusual existence because they shut themselves from the world inside the forest, so it was their fate to be aimed by various people.

According to Fia, since the Elves, who returned after their tradition journey, told that they were attacked by the outsiders, they naturally started to reject other races.

“Well then, I’ll send you until here...” (Ichigo)

“Thank you for everything. Please send my regards to Shishou.” (Sirius)

“I’m just doing my duty. You guys too, please take care.” (Ichigo)

The attendant Elder, who finished his duty, bowed toward us and disappeared into the depths of the forest.

When I turned around, other Elves were also lowered their heads and saw the attendant Elder off.

The boss was Shishou, and I didn't understand much because the first Elder I encountered was that foolish Elder, but as I expected, they were great existence.

And then, although we were the ones remained, the Elves looked uneasy and no one came closer.

No... there was a figure of a person who cheerfully jumped out.

"Welcome back, Onee-sama! More importantly, you are safe!" (Asha)

"Yes, I'm back, Asha." (Fia)

"Yes! Gufufu..." (Asha)

Asha, who run with all her might, leaped in order to hug Fia. She was pleased while rubbing her face on that chest.

Since she was making awful face while she was pleased, I tried to open my mouth, but... there was a change seen in the Elves.

When I was thinking who was suddenly breaking the crowd, there was an Elf who was slowly walking toward us.

"...Otou-san. Are you already fine to walk?" (Fia)

"Yes, somehow. It seems you are also safe." (Fia's Father)

"Yes, I am fine. More importantly, what is this all about? Haven't you heard about us?" (Fia)

Through the attendant Elder, Fia and I were supposed to be acknowledged by the Holy Tree, but the Elves were showing such an attitude.

"Aah, I have heard. That you are acknowledged by Seiki-sama... I am proud of that as your father." (Fia's Father)

"Then, why?" (Fia)

"However, whether he is accepted by Seiki-sama or not, it is still difficult for us to accept the outsiders." (Fia's Father)

He fought against the Elder, and the cause was Fia and I became lovers.

Even though they understood, it was probably not easy to accept just because I was acknowledged by the Holy Tree.

“Dear guests. I’m grateful for saving my life. But, there is nothing good to stay in this village. I’m sorry, but...” (Fia’s Father)

“...Understood We will leave.” (Sirius)

““Eh!?”” (Emilia/Reese)

“Is that alright, Aniki!?” (Reus)

The siblings and Reese were surprised because I easily accepted it, but there was no way we could be at ease if we remained in this situation.

Since everyone agreed as I told them so, Fia’s father called us to halt when I was heading toward the entrance of the village.

“Wait a second, Fia. You stay here.” (Fia’s Father)

“What are you saying? I am a criminal, so it is not good if I don’t leave, right?” (Fia)

“That matter is gone by the time Seiki-sama acknowledged you, and same goes to what happened before that. So, there is no reason to leave right?” (Fia’s Father)

“Tou-san... I am leaving on my own will. And the permission was given by Seiki-sama.” (Fia)

“By Seiki-sama?” (Fia’s Father)

Apparently, they only knew the part where she was acknowledge by the Holy Tree. In other words, those who received the seed didn’t tell the point of receiving it.

As Fia made a sidelong glance to the agitated Elves, she openly declared while hugging my arm.

“I am a lover of this person! I will not leave him and I will remain with him until death do us apart.” (Fia)

“Wha!? No matter what you say, he is a human!” (??)

“You are being deceived. Wake up, Shimifia!” (??)

“The outsider only look at us a tool of making money!” (??)

“...” (Fia)

The Elves turned angry eyes on me because of Fia’s bold declaration, and they were making noise asking Fia to return to sanity.

Meanwhile, Asha and Fia’s father, who were quietly watching, were a bit worried...

“Silent.” (Fia)

The Elves were silenced when they heard Fia’s loud voice for the first time.

While Fia hugged my arms tighter, she threw words to the Elves.

“Everyone is certainly right. I also realize that the outsiders are looking at us Elves as tools for making money.” (Fia)

“Then, why!?” (??)

“But... that’s only bad people. At least, Sirius and these children treat me as a woman and as a friend. You guys have been staying in the forest forever, so you will only see them with biased judgment!” (Fia)

“That’s only a part of them. For us, the outsiders are nothing but enemies!” (??)

What the Elves were saying was right.

There were a lot of greedy people in this world and in my previous world.

But... that wasn’t what Fia wanted to say.

“It doesn’t mean I stop being cautious to others. What we need is an eye that discern people.” (Fia)

In other words, Fia would like to say that they should be able to distinguish between friends and foes.

Nothing would change if they stayed in the forest and reject everything and since they were not growing, she wanted to say that she felt a sense of crisis.

As we were able to come here, there was no guarantee that people or

enemies wouldn't visit this village.

"I'm saying this because I didn't dislike everyone. Engrave my words in your heart even a little!" (Fia)

"O-oi! Shemifia!" (??)

"I will go together with Sirius and my friends. Well then, everyone. Let's meet again... someday." (Fia)

Since Fia started pulling my arm while saying so, I bowed at Fia's father and turned my back toward the Elves.

—

After that, we left the village of the Elves, we passed through the barrier of hesitation and went through the forest. We, then, camped in the same place as when we came here.

The surroundings were dark because it was already night. After finishing the dinner, we freely spent our time around a bonfire while drinking tea that Emilia brewed.

"How do you like it, Sirius-sama?" (Emilia)

"Yeah... it's delicious. It was already delicious, but now it's clearly more delicious." (Sirius)

"It's delicious, Emilia. Since it is the same tea leaves, the tea really has deep taste." (Reese)

"Nee-chan, please give me another cup." (Reus)

"Ehehe, that's great. But, please wait for a while. It takes time to adjust the steaming." (Emilia)

She greatly enjoyed the tea brewed which remarkably evolved after remembering about Shishou, but since Fia quietly drank the tea, Reese anxiously looked into her face.

"Fia-san. Are you sure you are fine with that?" (Reese)

"...What do you mean?" (Fia)



“The words that you told to every Elf. When you put it that way, there is a possibility that the Elves will hate you...” (Reese)

“That is my true feelings, so I don’t really regret it.” (Fia)

Did she prepared to be hated?

Although it might sound conceited, she wanted to convey that what they had been doing wasn’t good in the long run. As I recalled, I had a feeling that the Elves in the village were grumbling when they met me for the first time.

Maybe because everyone was anxiously watching her, Fia waved her hand as if telling she was fine while wryly smiling.

“Besides, I don’t expect they will change because of what I have said. There is also a strange thickheaded part in the Elves, so they will think that I am telling something weird.” (Fia)

“If that’s the case, how do you feel about it, Fia-ane?” (Reus)

“Yes... Tou-san’s reaction is a bit... I thought that he would say something, but in the end, he almost didn’t say anything when we were leaving...” (Fia)

“If it so, Fia-san, you don’t have to leave the village and you can stay overnight in your house...” (Emilia)

“That’s not good. I don’t want to be in a place where everyone is looking at me in that way.” (Fia)

I didn’t think they would do anything to her, but it seemed difficult to spend the day when they were looking with that kind of rejection. ...And it would be more difficult when it was with the same race.

“If it so, how about calling him here? You probably can talk more if he is alone.” (Sirius)

“But, Tou-san is sick, so I don’t want him to overdo it.” (Fia)

“There is no need to worry, Onee-sama.” (Asha)

“Aah, you are already here.” (Fia’s Father)

When I looked at the sudden interrupting voice, Asha and Fia’s father appeared after going through the forest.

...As I expected, it was difficult to perceive the Elves in the forest. Actually, I didn't notice them until they were considerably near to us. Hokuto seemed to notice earlier than me, but he didn't respond because they were not enemies.

"Asha. Tou-san too..." (Fia)

"Please excuse us a bit. I have something I want to talk with my daughter."  
(Fia's Father)

"I don't mind. Please go here." (Sirius)

"I will prepare tea." (Emilia)

We were at the carriage sitting in a circle with a bonfire at the center now. In the meantime, Asha sat next to Fia and her father sat on the opposite side.

Even so, this was truly a wonder. Although the daughter, Fia, had already grown up splendidly, no matter how one look at her father, he looked like a young man in twenties.

"So... what is it, Tou-san? Are you going to tell me to return to the village?"  
(Fia)

And then, while Emilia was preparing tea, Fia, who was sitting next to me, embraced my arm as if she didn't want to leave, but her father wryly smile when he saw it.

"I also didn't ask you to leave the village. It seems that you have gotten the permission from Seiki-sama. Therefore, you can choose your own path." (Fia's Father)

"Then, why did you come here? Are you going to drive my friends out?" (Fia)

"Don't be angry. In a place where everyone feels suspicious, there is nothing else I could say as a chieftain. So, I came here to see your lover." (Fia's Father)

"Me?" (Sirius)

Since he would become my future father-in-law when I thought about it, I replied with a slight polite tone and he slowly nodded.

"I heard from Asha that you will really make Fia's happy even though you are a human?" (Fia's Father)

“That’s right. In order not to make Fia regrets for choosing me, I will just keep on living for her.” (Sirius)

I explained what I had told Asha, and the father and I were staring at each other without looking away. Nevertheless, since the Father was expressionless enough not to be defeated by the Elders, it was hard to read his feeling.

Everyone was also holding their breath due to such tense mood, but since Fia, who was hugging my arm, rubbed her cheeks while seeming happy, they became relaxed.

““...Fia. Be more serious.”” (Sirius/Fia’s Father)

“Why are you agreeing altogether!? Weren’t you fighting?” (Fia)

“I’m not arguing with him.” (Fia’s Father)

“Since the tense mood has disappeared, please stop it. So, will you accept me as Fia’s lover?” (Sirius)

“...” (Fia’s Father)

The father suddenly became quiet because of my question. He kept eyes closed while thinking.

There was no reaction even after a while, but he finally opened his mouth by the time Emilia had prepared the tea and handed it to Asha.

“I will not like human being. So, I disagree that my daughter is tying knot with a human. To be honest, I really want to stop her from going on journey.” (Fia’s Father)

“I thought that you wanted to reply with various things, but it is the first time for me listening to your thought about human being. Why do you dislike them?” (Fia)

“It is because my wife... your mother passed away due to the injuries inflicted by the human.” (Fia’s Father)

When Fia’s mother, who went on a tradition journey, returned home, she was shot with arrow by the human who wanted to catch the Elves.

The mother managed to escape while getting hit by an arrow, but as the

wound was affected by a disease, the mother who was supposed to live for hundred years died at the same time after having Fia born.

“But, I was saved because my daughter was rescued by the hands of humans. So, I am at lost... I wonder what I should do.” (Fia’s Father)

“Is that... true?” (Fia)

“Yes. Even so, do you want to say that you still want to be with that human?” (Fia’s Father)

“...Do not ridicule me.” (Fia)

After leaving my arm, Fia, who knew the truth, walked toward in front of her father with a serious look.

“It is certainly a terrible story, and I might not forgive them if Kaa-san was there. However, Sirius will not ever do it. Races are irrelevant. It is because I love Sirius as a woman.” (Fia)

“But...” (Fia’s Father)

“There is no ‘But’! Even when he went against the Elder Elves-sama, won’t it be weird if you don’t accept him when he didn’t hesitate in protecting you!?” (Fia)

“Well, that’s because he is an outsider. Unlike us who respect the Elder Elves-sama, he doesn’t know the importance of that matter.” (Fia’s Father)

“Just so you know, Sirius told me that he would protect me even if I was targeted by a country. Rather than as an Elf, as a woman, it is impossible not to respond to him when he said until that much!” (Fia)

Aah, I certainly remembered saying that. If she was being targeted by a country, I would either run away with all I had or just completely eradicate the source of the problem.

When Fia approached almost in front of his father, he was still expressionless, but he raised hands as if he gave in.

“Fuh... I understand your feelings, so don’t yell at me so close. You... really love that man.” (Fia’s Father)

“Yes, I love him! ...Eh, were you testing me?” (Fia)

“Of course. Now, I am not the Chieftain of the Elves, but as your father.” (Fia’s Father)

“...Isn’t this somehow weird? I think you should ask that to Sirius, right?” (Fia)

“That’s because you live by instinct. Whether you are swept in a temporary situation, I wanted to hear the real intention from your mouth first.” (Fia’s Father)

“I don’t understand, but that’s rude!” (Fia)

As expected of the father... he really understand the character of the daughter.

Whether Fia was able to convince him, there was no need for me to open my mouth.

“Besides, I already understand that man’s resolution. While having abilities to go against the Elder Elves-sama, he didn’t get you by sheer force. And didn’t he become angry because of you... as an Elf? He wouldn’t do it if he didn’t really think of you.” (Fia’s Father)

“Tou-san... did you evaluate Sirius until that far?” (Fia)

“The results were proven. Besides, Asha, who is devoted of you, desperately saying it... that he will make you happy.” (Fia’s Father)

“...Hmmpf.” (Asha)

When I looked at Asha, she seemed embarrassed and looked the other way.

And then Emilia and Reese presented towels and water in panicked as if her tongue was burning after drinking tea.

“Then, do you accept my relationship with Sirius?” (Fia)

“But... I still don’t like human. And while you are at that, giving you to that man is...” (Fia’s Father)

“This is the scene where you say ‘Yes’!” (Fia)

“Ugh!? But... I... for my daughterrr!” (Fia’s Father)

Since Fia grabbed the collar of his father and started shaking it, I used Nelson hold to stopped her.

Goodness... what kind of greetings was that?

It should be something like the father and I went against each other when asking for the daughter...

Although I was sorry with the current situation where the story was progressing only between the parent and the daughter since I didn't say enough, but Fia, who took the opportunity and came out from the restraint, kissed me in front of his father.

"Wha!?" (Fia's Father)

"Aaahhh!?" (Asha)

"Aah, Fia-san. I know that it is easy to make them understand, but..." (Emilia)

"I'm jealous." (Reese)

"Fia-ane is unreasonable as usual, right?" (Reus)

"...Woof." (Hokuto)

It seemed that the disciples were mixing it in surprised, but there was nothing to say about Asha. And then the father's expressionless face crumbled and he opened eyes wide.

After that, the place became more chaos, and the family argument continued...

"Hah... hah... so, will you accept me to be with Sirius?" (Fia)

"Fuh... fuh... It can't be helped then. Human... please take care... of... my daughter." (Fia's Father)

"Un-understood." (Sirius)

He was expressionless, but since he looked at me while reluctantly saying that, I had no other choice but to reply.

"But Tou-san, you're being irresponsible when saying it while we're still in the middle of discussion. If you look like that when looking at your grandchild's face, you will realize how ridiculous you are." (Fia)

“Grandchild, is it? I don’t really understand about it.” (Fia’s Father)

The reason with that lukewarm response was because the Elves were not familiar with grandchildren.

The Elves lived for a long time, but they only had one or two children in their lifetime. Therefore, from the view of the Elves who thought of it as a system of increasing the number of children, grandchildren would be like an extension of a child.

“They are surely cute, you know. It is also said that the famous Strongest Sword become powerless before the presence of grandchildren.” (Fia)

“Strongest Sword? What kind of foolish things are you talking about?” (Fia’s Father)

Unfortunately, that was the truth. Jii-san was falling over heels with Emilia.

Which remind me, the Elves who shut down themselves in the forest also knew Jii-chan’s name.

“I will let you see your grandchild someday, so please look forward to it.” (Fia)

“A-alright. I will wait for that time.” (Fia’s Father)

Whether their discussion was over with that, the father stood up and looked at us one after another.

“Are you going home now?” (Fia)

“Yes, I am still sick, so I can’t overdo things yet. Everyone, she is a nosy girl, but please take care of her.” (Fia’s Father)

The father who had confirmed that we nodded because of those words, loosened his mouth and turned his back on us.

“I will try to understand a little about the words that you said when you left the village. Let me think about it.” (Fia’s Father)

“Tou-san...” (Fia)

“Fia. Live your life without regrets. If anything happens, it’s fine to come back home. After all, here is your home.” (Fia’s Father)

“Thanks, Tou-san. But I will not regret this, so don’t worry. I am happy and I’m

having fun now.” (Fia)

“Hmmm...That is also true.” (Fia’s Father)

After that, he continued walking toward the forest without looking back, and we waited until his figure completely disappeared.

—

The father had returned to the village, but Asha still remained.

Fia caressed her head after giving a hug that was like an embrace while she was still trying to cool down her tongue with water.

“I must say thank you to Asha. It seems you have persuaded Tou-san.” (Fia)

“I only made a move because of Onee-sama. It is regrettable, but that man has defeated the Elder Elves-sama, so I have no choice but to accept him...”  
(Asha)

“You’re not being honest, you know. But, thank you.” (Fia)

“It was for Onee-sama...” (Asha)

Although she was saying good stuff, she breathing roughly while being hugged by the dearest sister, and that sloppy face crumbled to the extent that it shouldn’t come from a woman.

Since Fia separated from her and put hands behind her back, Asha was bothered about it. Fia had been taken care well by someone who she considered as a sister.

“I feel a bit suspicious, but... I wonder why Asha is yearning Fia-san up to that point.” (Reese)

“I also wonder about it. I think Fia-ane is a beautiful and good woman, but there is a part that grows a bit too much...” (Reus)

“I don’t think the disciples of Sirius should make a wrong statement. Is this the mouth that say those unreasonable words” (Fia)

“Ouchhh!?! Stop it, Fia-ane!” (Reus)



“I will not forgive if you make a fool of Onee-sama!” (Asha)

“That’s really hurt!?” (Reus)

Reus, who made a slip of the tongue, had his head hit by a fist and the shin was kicked by Asha. Since he was fiddled by two beautiful female Elves, it might be an enviable situation depending on people.

“I understood that feeling. Fia is good at taking care of people, and that’s why she is our Onee-san.” (Emilia)

“...That’s right. Onee-sama is amazing. After all, I was saved by Onee-sama...” (Asha)

I was convinced after seeing the Elves in the village that Fia and Asha were considerably oddballs among the Elves. I guessed that she was lonely since they were close in the village.

Although Fia didn’t mind her personality, Asha’s heart was a bit weak.

“I was saved because Onee-sama doesn’t discriminate even a person like me. I will die anytime for such Onee-sama!” (Asha)

“It is too much for you to say, so hold back a bit.” (Fia)

“Yes! I will keep it reasonably.” (Asha)

“What is this... I feel like I know a similar person.” (Reese)

“Sirius-sama, would you like to have more tea? Do you want me to massage your shoulders? Ehehe...” (Emilia)

While agreeing with Reese, I stroke Emilia’s head who was trying to be helpful.

“By the way, Onee-sama. That branch is...” (Asha)

“Aah, did you notice it? Actually, this is the bow that I received from Seiki-sama.” (Fia)

“Is that so? It must be a divine bow. To be given something like this, Onee-sama is coming closer to the day to be called as a legendary Elf.” (Asha)

“Ahaha, that’s an exaggeration. But I can’t use it because there is no string.” (Fia)

“Well then, Onee-sama. If you don’t mind, please accept this.” (Asha)

Asha removed the string from the bow she had and gave it to Fia.

The bow that the Elves was robust, and the string was also a suitable substitutes, but... it seemed that the string was overshadowed by the branch of the Holy Tree.

“The bow is not balanced with the string that I am used, but please use it as a connection until you find a better one.” (Asha)

“I will not think of it as a connection. This is a string filled with your thoughts, I will take care of it.” (Fia)

“Onee-sama... even with those words, I am already satisfied!” (Asha)

And then, Fia gently stroked Asha who leaped into her chest.

“You will go on for the tradition journey, right? Please be careful, alright.” (Fia)

“Yes! Onee-sama too, please take care...” (Asha)

The Elven sisters then embraced as if they wanted to make sure of each other.

—

A few days later... we finally returned to where the carriage was and we checked the carriage we left.

There was no particular damage since it was properly concealed, so we were going to leave soon.

“Hei, Aniki. Do we have our next destination set?” (Reus)

“No... There is no plan at the moment. So, we will just keep traveling without destinations.” (Sirius)

We were visiting Fia’s hometown to clear up her worries.

Although Fia was hurt and I had a reunion with Shishou, I think that I was really glad to visit there.

“Once we visit the Adload Continent a little bit more, shall we head to other

continent, next time?” (Sirius)

“Hehe, you finally say it. Let’s enjoy traveling around the world even more.”  
(Fia)

“Another continent, is it? I wonder what is waiting for us next.” (Reese)

“If it is for Sirius-sama, I will follow even until the end of the world.” (Emilia)

“Ouu. Me too. If it is Aniki, I will follow you wherever you go!” (Reus)

The carriage brought us on a road where a calm wind blew.

Aiming for a new continent, and the next destination would be...

—

## **Presenting Hokuto**

On that day, Hokuto-kun and others were taking a break during the trip and they were playing Frisbee.

“I’m going. Take this!” (Sirius)

““Waahh!”” (Emilia/Reus)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

As Hokuto-kun chased after the Master’s thrown a Frisbee with full power, the scene where Emilia-chan and Reus-kun loudly running was also familiar.

Although they were supposed to take a break, it felt inconsistent since they were doing a tiring activity. However, there was no problem since they were having fun.

Hokuto-kun who won the catch went back to the Master while wagging the tail.

“There, there, you’re good.” (Sirius)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

“Alright, alright. Here, [Hand].” (Sirius)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

"[Second]." (Sirius)

"Woof!" (Hokuto)

As a part of training, when he was able to catch a Frisbee in the previous life, they often did [Hand] and [Second].

However, it was different in this world since he was placing forefoot instead of hand, so Fia, who came next to me, was curiously watching.

"Hey, what does that [Hand] mean?" (Fia)

"It was something that I did in the previous life as a part of training and interaction. But now, I am doing it because Hokuto wants me to do it." (Sirius)

"Heh, I wonder if he will do that for me?" (Fia)

"Me too? Hokuto-san, [Hand]!" (Reus)

"Woof!" (Hokuto)

"Uhaa!?" (Reus)

Reus-kun ate Hokuto-kun's right punch and blew away.

Although it was an interaction, it was also treated as an order. Therefore, there was no one who could do it but the Master.

Moreover, Reus-kun was the junior.

Hokuto-kun was very strict in hierarchical relationship.

"Aah, he did that once for me, you know?" (Reese)

"Ouch... He did it to you, Reese-ane?" (Reus)

"Yeah. Hey, Hokuto. I want a [Hand]." (Reese)

"..." (Hokuto)

"It's fine even if it is a little. I'll brush you after this, so please." (Reese)

"...Woof." (Hokuto)

Hokuto-kun brought his forefoot while sighing as if it was unavoidable.

Besides, Reese-chan was an important woman for the Master, and since Hokuto-kun would receive a brushing, he also became lenient.

“... I feel something different.” (Reese)

“...Is that so?” (Fia)

“He will not do it other than Aniki after all. As expected of Hokuto-san!”  
(Reus)

“Woof!” (Hokuto)

Hokuto-kun barked as if saying it was a matter of course.

Everyone was convinced with it, but in reality there was an exception.

<Hey, give me a [Hand]> (Shishou)

<Woof...> (Hokuto)

<You don't want to do it? It's troubling, isn't it? Well then...> (Shishou)

<Wo... woof...> (Hokuto)

And that was... Shishou in the previous life.

While putting his hand, the least resistance Hokuto-kun could do was to look away.

—

### **Author's Note**

In the case when Fia-san's father saw his grandchild... he would be irresponsive and expressionless in the beginning, but he was secretly burning deep inside... You can imagine that he would be such a super tsundere.

## **Intermission – Let's Start by Giving Up First**

— Beowulf —

The Swordsman Saint.

It was one of the famous swordsmen equal to that famous Strongest Sword, Lior.

And... he was the person that I admired most.

But... since such a father passed away and left me and my sick mother behind, I also hated him at the same time.

Until a while ago...

I was defeated by Sirius-san at the Fighting Festival where many strong people gathered.

I was completely defeated by an overwhelming difference in strength.

It was frustrating to be defeated, but thanks to that, I was able to hear about my father from Sirius-san.

The reason why I wanted to be strong was because I thought that if I got close to the strength of my father, I might know the reason why he left my mother.

That was why I was only thinking about becoming stronger, but... something within me changed from that day.

I didn't know about my father much.

For that reason, I thought that I would like to learn more, and I went on a trip again.

It was said that the Strongest Sword, Lior... took care of father at his last moment, so I kept traveling to look for that man.

—

"I'm sorry. I don't know." (??)

"There are many people who adore the Strongest Swords and have greatsword. Where is the real one?" (??)

"Oi oi, there's a rumor that the Strongest Sword is already dead, you know? It's just a waste of looking." (Beowulf)

However, even if he searched for him, the Strongest Sword had suddenly disappeared decades ago. Hence, there was little information since he was publicly believed to have been dead.

Even when he gathered information from pub or people who walked down the road, he was told that nobody knew about the Strongest Sword.

“But, there is no doubt that he is still alive.” (Beowulf)

I didn't think that Sirius-san and Reus-kun who had such strength would tell a lie, and since Jekyll-san who knew the Strongest Sword more than anything, he told that Reus' 'Single Strike Ultimate Destruction Sword Style' was not an imitation.

I heard that he was considerably old, but there was no doubt that the Strongest Sword was still alive.

“Besides, I don't expect the existence who hold the strength that much to be conspicuous. If that's the case... he may be in disguise or may have changed the name.” (Beowulf)

That was why I changed aim a little. I would try to find an elderly man with a greatsword...

And Sirius-san told me another clue when we parting.

<Since he was thinking to join together with us, you may meet him if you go back the way we've come through.> (Sirius)

Because of that, I went to the town that Sirius-san mentioned while collecting information, and I had been coming to the Mellifest Continent from the Adload Continent.

This was the first time for me to be in the Melifest Continent.

It would be good if I could find the Strongest Sword in this continent, but...

—

“An old man with a greatsword? That remind me, I feel like I heard about him the other day.” (??)

A couple of days after coming to the continent, I finally got such information at a tavern in a town a distant away from the port town.

“Really!? Where is that man?” (Beowulf)

“No, I don't know where he went. I heard that he was an old man who earned

money by annihilating all bandits used to be around this area. That old man had a greatsword..." (??)

"Thank you very much. I will head to the guild at once!" (Beowulf)

Based on the obtained clues, I went to the Adventurer Guild of the same town.

Since the Adventurer Guild was a place to receive rewards of eliminating bandits, more information could be obtained there.

I immediately asked the receptionist, but...

"He certainly came here a few days ago. I remembered him well because he was amazing." (??)

"Yes. After destroying almost ten groups of bandits, he brought the bandit leaders together but it was amazing because half of it weren't restrained. They couldn't escape because they were too scared of the old man." (??)

In a short moment, I was delighted to get the information. However, the receptionist, who saw me wanting to see the old man, showed a difficult expression.

"That old man said he was heading to the Adload Continent. If you are not chasing him in hurry, you won't make it in time." (??)

It seemed that we were somehow gone past each other.

I immediately set off and returned to the port town for the public ship service that was same from the Adload Continent.

—

While waiting for a large sailing ship departed from the port town and went to the Adload Continent, I was sitting on the rail of a ship and vaguely looking at the scenery.

'What would I ask if I meet the Strongest Sword?'

'Will it be about father's last moment?'

'Is it about his strength?'



No... would he talked to me in the first place?

Either way, I wouldn't know until I met him.

As I decided, suddenly the sound of the bell on the ship being hit hard echoed.

"Enemy attack! Enemy attack! It's pirates—!" (??)

When I turned around, I saw a ship bigger than the ship that I got onboard was coming closer.

I felt like they were used to this attack from the point of attacking at somewhere far from the land. It seemed impossible to escape because the speed of that ship was faster, so the battle seemed unavoidable.

Since I carried weapons as always, I spoke to a sailor nearby who was preparing for interception.

"I am an adventurer. I will lend a hand by fighting them." (Beowulf)

"Ooh! That really helps! Please help us fighting the pirates." (Sailor)

"Understood. By the way, who is that pirate?" (Beowulf)

"Recently, there is a pirate group that make its presence felt in this area. We are trying to hire escorts here, but... there are more than expected." (Sailor)

They are other adventurers who had similar thoughts as me and we were the escort onboard the ship, but it seemed that there were more enemies than imagined as the sailor said.

There was a considerable difference in battle force, but... I wouldn't be defeated.

From thereupon, those who couldn't fight entered the cabin. There were several adventurers had unleashed magic toward the pirate ship, but there were also magic unleashed from the pirate ship and intercepted them.

The magic unleashed hit each other's ship, but since the magic was intermediate level at best, it wouldn't sink the ship. It was probably because they had no plan to sink their prey which was our boat.

After all, their battle force was focus more on close combat.

“But, this is what I want.” (Beowulf)

And then, as the pirate ship was lining up, many ropes were thrown and the ships were tied together. The pirates wearing black clothes like marks on their heads started attacking this ship.

The number of pirates that attacked was nearly twice the number of us, but it seemed that they weren't strong enemies based on their movements.

I didn't only targeted the incoming enemies but also I randomly swung at random.

“Just because you have two swords... guhaa!?” (??)

“What's with his movement, so fast.... gyaa!?” (??)

“Damn, this is a strong one! Call that guy!” (??)

More reinforcements came after we cleared up nearly half of them, but there was one person was clearly different from others.

An adventurer was swinging sword to that man, but far from stopping him, that man sliced the adventurer together with the sword he had.

That strength... apparently, he seemed to be the captain of the enemies.

Since we couldn't afford to reduce our battle force, I rushed out to try to take on that man.

“I will not let you do that anymore!” (Beowulf)

“Uoo!? Aren't you doing well!?” (??)

“You stopped my sword very well. But...” (Beowulf)

If compared to Sirius-san and Reus-kun, he was slow.

The man intercepted my swords couple of times, but he couldn't respond with the swift speed which gradually became faster, and I slashed the man's body with my sword at the end of exchanging blows.

“It can't be... I...” (??)

“...Phew. Next is...” (Beowulf)

“Alright, break it quickly! If you want to take the hostage, they are here!” (??)

“It seems I have no time to relax!” (Beowulf)

While I was a bit delayed because of that man, several pirates tried to break the door to the cabin.

Perhaps they wanted to weaken our movement by taking civilian as hostages, but I wouldn't let them.

When I approached the pirate who was trying to swing an ax down to the door of the cabin from behind...

“Too noisy!” (??)

When I thought of that loud noise which suddenly reverberated to the point it shook the ship, the door of the cabin was blown away by shockwaves... No, it was shattered.

That shock wave, which seemed to have been unleashed from inside the door, blew the pirates, who tried to shake down the ax, in the sky and fell in the sea.

While the enemies and allies were stunned due to that sight, a large old man to the point of making me looked up, came out from cabin, and he appeared with a greatsword with length similar to his height in one hand.

“You are noisier! This old man...!” (??)

“Well then, you are just loud!” (L???) (TLN: You know who.)

A pirate nearby swung a sword to the old man, but when I thought whether his wrist was blurring, the pirate were cut into two together with his sword. In addition, there was a large cutting clearly remained on the ship.

To swing such a greatsword easily... maybe this old man was...?

“Nuhh... Although I was sleeping comfortably, what is this all about!?” (L???)

‘No, let's leave him for now.’

The reason was... this old man seemed to be in a very bad mood.

Although he looked frustrated to be woken up in that way, I could feel the fear of touching God's wrath from that intimidation and bloodlust. If I spoke poorly, I might be cut in two.

As I instinctively swallowed saliva due to the strength that I had never felt before, the old man turned face over to me.

“The youngster over there! If you are not an enemy, tell me what’s going on.”  
(L???)

“What’s going on... is it?” (Beowulf)

“What’s with these pirates?” (L???)

“Uhhh, they are real pirates and this ship is currently being attacked...”  
(Beowulf)

“Hmm... so the pirates are the ones that wrap cloth on their heads, right?”  
(L???)

“That’s right...” (Beowulf)

I instinctively realized that it would be useless to oppose this old man.

And with the way I was at the present... I absolutely couldn’t win against him no matter what.

“Kuh... This is troublesome. Oi, the youngster over there. Since you have skills, stay there.” (L???)

“Ha... Haa...” (Beowulf)

Without listening to my reply, while the old man was yawning, he started walking toward the pirate ship.

Of course, the pirates were unlikely to miss such an impressive old man who was walking. The pirates, who had been paralyzed by the intimidation and bloodlust, regained their minds one after another. And then, they assaulted the old man...

“You’re hindrance! If you are rushing, I will do it!” (L???)

Six pirates were jumping at the same time and when I thought whether the old man’s arm got blurred again... all the six pirates fell to the sea while they were cut into two.

I could see it barely but perhaps the number of times the sword was shaken... was three times.

First, he slashed half of the pirates that approach from the side. Then, he cut the remainder with counterattack. Lastly, he greatly swung while generating wind pressure at the same time to blow off the pirates.

...I could say nothing but ridiculous.

While being taken aback, the old man came aboard the pirate ship by himself and killed the pirates at the same time.

“Oo, oi oi!? What’s that old man doing?” (??)

“Leave him alone! Do you have time to worry about that old man!?” (??)

The adventurers who were fighting nearby were amazed with his behavior.

It wasn’t that I didn’t understand their amazement feeling, but if my imagination about that old man was right... I felt that it was rather dangerous if he stayed on this ship.

The strength and sword momentum were too strong. Every time he sliced a pirate, the ship was also damaged. If this was the case, the ship was likely to sink before the pirates were annihilated.

As the old man got into the pirate ship, the enemy’s reinforcements also stopped. So, we defeated the pirates on our side and let out a breath.

However, there were still pirates left on the other ship.

Leaving the defense to other adventurers, I jumped onto the pirate ship after the old man, and the sight that was spreading there... was already a disaster.

“Ooooo—!” (L???)

“““Gyaaahhh—!?””” (??)

Every time the old man, who was surrounded by nearly fifty pirates, wielded his sword, the pirates were killed, danced in the air, and blown off into the sea.

“Although I was sleeping comfortably, because of you, you woke me upppp—!” (L???)

“Do-don’t know about that... guhaa!?” (??)

“Help.... gahaa!?” (??)

“You can choose either you will be cut off by me and be fed to fishes, or you can jump into the sea yourself and become a fish feed!” (L???)

“Whichever we choose, we still die!?” (??)

As I expected, every time the old man swung the sword, the ship was also damaged.

It seemed like he was venting his anger, so I wasn't sure now who was the bad guy.

“Magic Team, stop him before the ship is destroyed! Cast magic all at once!” (??)

“What a fool!” (L???)

“Wha!? What's going on!?” (??)

“One more time... gaahh!?” (??)

Far from clearing away all the magic that were unleashed, he approached them while they were surprised, and he mow them down.

Rather than being knocked down, it seemed the pirates went all out because of their current situation being trampled. From the cabin that the man I fought earlier came, four people who seemed to be strong appeared.

Among there, there was a man who had a similar size ax with the old man... and from the feeling of intimidation and bloodlust that could be felt even from a distance, he seemed to be the enemy's boss.

“Ca-captain Black! Help... aarggh!?” (??)

“Cheh... when I think that guy won't return, this happens, you know. Oi, the old man over there!” (Black)

“Ooooo—!” (L???)

“Old man! Are you listening!?” (Black)

“Oraaa—!” (L???)

“Don't ignore me! If you don't want to hear it, everyone, kill him!” (Black)

Although the other side was calling, the old man completely ignored him and

he continued slashing the pirates.

When Black, who got impatient in that situation, gave instruction, the three people, who were in the vicinity, approached the rampaging old man.

Although they were not at the degree of Black, those three people seemed to have considerable abilities.

But...

“We are the four heavenly kings of the pirate Black, I am the spear Jio—...” (??)

“So, what!?” (L???)

A man holding a spear was cut in half...

“Wha!? With my axe, I will—...” (??)

“If you have time to talk, swing your hands!” (L???)

Unlike Black, the man who swung down his big axe was slain before he finished swinging...

“The back is empty—...” (??)

“You’re slow!” (L???)

The man who went around the back, was slain by the old man who turned around faster than him.

They were exaggerated bunch who called themselves, but they were easily disposed off.

While other pirates started to be scared by the overwhelming, Black was the only one who had a fearless smile.

“Heh, you can do that, huh. You came onboard alone.” (Black)

“Hmm... you seem to be different from other small fishes.” (L???)

“Of course. I am Black. In the streets, I am known as the Strongest Arm, Black, but... don’t you know that?” (Black)

“Nope.” (L???)

The old man replied as if he didn’t care, but I knew the Strongest Arm, Black.

He was more or less one of the famous veteran adventurers by the guild, but he disappeared on a certain day. However, I didn't expect he became a pirate in such a place.

Furthermore, the giant ax that man had was said to be made of the heaviest ore... It seemed to be made of Gravitite or something, but given that size, it would be heavier than the sword that the old man had.

In other words, it seemed he was known as the Strongest Arm because of how easy he swung that heavy ax.

"It doesn't matter if you don't know. By the way, you might be the Strongest Sword—..." (Black)

"It's Ikki-Tousen!" (Tousen)

"Well, it doesn't matter. Anyway, I am confident that I won't lose to anyone. Even if my opponent is an old man... So, shall we have a contest of strength?" (Black)

"Hoo... that's bold. Fine, shall I accept it?" (Tousen)

And then, they both were swinging weapons with all strength at the same time.

According to the rumor, Black was said to have strength that surpassed the Strongest Sword. As the rumor said, the speed of Black's swinging axe was on par with the old man's.

If it was me, I would choose to avoid without hesitation, but the old man swung the sword with a slight delay...

"...Ha?" (Black)

"Only your strength is higher, but..." (Tousen)

Not only Black's weapon, I also heard that the old man's weapon was made of Gravitite.

When weapons made of the same material hit with nearly same amount of strength, a violent shock and a roaring sound reverberated, but as the weapons collided, the sound I heard was the sound of something falling into the distant sea.



When I looked at Black and the old man who swung their weapons, only the black's weapon had the blade part cut completely.

“Well... It is a movement that relied on that weapon. ‘Single Strike Ultimate Destruction Sword Style’ is not only about strength, it is something to be wield with spirit and determination.” (Tousen)

“Wa-wait!? I am the loser in this match—...” (Black)

“Now you're begging for life, huh! Nuoooo!” (Tousen)

The old man swiftly swung the sword and cut Black in two.

Although it appeared cruel, I didn't feel that way. When he lost after challenging the other side, he begged for his life... it seemed that he wasn't overwhelmingly prepared for the fight.

Thus, Black, who was the leader of the pirates was killed, but another problem came up.

“Ru-run!” (??)

“Retreat! It will collapse!” (??)

Hmm... I overdid it, huh.” (Tousen)

“Why are you so calm about it!?” (Beowulf)

The aftermath of cutting Black was also cut the mast which was also the center of the ship.

I didn't really care since it was a pirate ship, but the direction of the collapse was bad. It seemed the ship on which we were onboard would be damaged.

We were in the sea that was far from the land, so I couldn't let it break our ship.

“If I can deviate it even a bit...” (Beowulf)

After losing to Sirius-san, I also had train my strength in order to freely swung two weapons.

If I gave a blow from the side before the mast fell...

“[Break Thrust]...Unleashed!” (Beowulf)

It was a technique I came up with when looking at the battle between Sirius-san and Reus-kun.

By receiving a shock from repeatedly hitting two swords, the direction of the falling mast was slightly deviated and it didn't hit our boat.

"Phew... that was dangerous." (Beowulf)

"Hou? You used an interesting technique..." (Tousen)

I was horrified by the gaze like a beast that aimed at prey, but the remaining pirates completely lost the intention to fight when their leader was defeated. It could be said that they were scared by the overwhelming ability of the old man, but anyhow, this problem was solved.

We left behind the pirate ship that could no longer be called as a pirate ship and returned to our ship. When we returned to our ship, the sailors and adventurers delightfully celebrated the victory.

The voices of praises were directed to us, but since the old man casually waved hands while returning to the cabin, I chased him in a hurry.

"Excuse me! Are you..." (Beowulf)

"Hmm? If you want to talk, do it later. Because I'm busy." (Tousen)

"Y-yes. Would you give me some time later?" (Beowulf)

"Hmm... well, when the ship arrives in town, come and get me. I am sleepy!" (Tousen)

He was busy... because of that?

However, it seemed that he would hear since he was telling me to wake him up, so he wouldn't disappear from the ship.

I saw the old man went off into the cabin, and when I tried to explain the details to the captain or the crews, the ship suddenly swayed greatly.

"Yeah, what is it?" (??)

"Look, there are bunch of something on the ship...!" (??)

"Something is coming out!" (??)

When I think whether a violent water pillar had risen from around the pirate ship, something innumerable appeared and it was hitting the ship.

It extended to this ship, and it wrapped around a nearby sailor and tried to drag him into the sea.

“Wha-what’s going on!?” (??)

“Damn, don’t get separated!” (??)

“Don’t let go, [Phantom Flash]!” (Beowulf)

The foundation of the [Phantom Sword]... it was a technique wielded by the speed that made it look like there were several swords, and with that, I cut the thing countless times in one go.

Accordingly, as I confirmed, he was wrapped by tentacles of something, and a water column that was bigger than earlier rose up.

“That’s huge... what is that monster?” (??)

“Is that Gelsylla!?” (??) (TLN: The name in raw is ゲルスキュラ)

“What is that?” (??)

“It sunk a lot of ships these days. For us, it was a devilish monster. However, it shouldn’t appear unless we are in a sea that is further away from the continent. So why it is in such a place?” (??)

“Maybe... it is because of blood. Perhaps, the blood of pirates sunk in the sea brought it here.” (??)

A huge molluscan creature rose to the pirate sea from the sea while extending countless tentacles and it exposed itself on the deck of the pirate ship.

It was huge... it was almost as big as a ship.

As expected, I couldn’t handle that size. Whether the sailors understood it, they moved the rudder and mast to get away from the pirate ship.

Apparently, the monster seemed fixated with the corpses remained on the pirate ship, so if we didn’t poorly provoked it...

“It’s a monster!” (??)

“I will burn it with my magic!” (??)

However, whether the adventurers lost their composure after seeing a huge monster, several of them shot Fire Magic.

The magic couldn't get through maybe because it was an intermediate magic, Flame Spear. On the contrary, it was distracted, and a tentacle attacked us once more.

“You stupid! What are you doing!?” (Beowulf)

“Bu-but...” (??)

“Talk later! Now, cut the tentacles and earn time!” (Beowulf)

Anyhow, that was the only way to escape.

In order not to let the ship be dragged by the tentacles, we continued slicing the extending tentacles.

However, no matter how many times we sliced it, the tentacles kept extending, and by the time we were overwhelmed by the numerous tentacles... violent footsteps sounded from behind.

“I told you... it's too noisy!” (Tousen)

There was no need to look back.

The old man, who came from the inside of the ship, jumped over us and was getting closer to the monster that was hanging on the deck of the pirate ship.

While the anticipation voice came from sailors and some adventurers saying that he was reckless, the old man swung his sword...

“[Shattering Strikes]... aarggh—!” (Tousen)

When the sword was swung down with that yell, the monster... and the ship... were cut into two.

And then, the monster and the ship that were cut into two sunk into the sea... and what remained after that was the wreckage of the ship and the sliced tentacles.

While all the people, including me, who were looking at the sight were stunned, the old man came back to the ship with the debris as a foothold.

“Damn it... now I am completely woke up.” (Tousen)

—

After that, the ship proceeded smoothly and finally, we saw the harbor of the Adload Continent which was the destination.

The people and the ship were pretty worn-out, but they raised the voice of joy.

However, no one dared to approach the old man even though he was a hero, except for some. It seemed that there were few people longing for his strength on this ship.

Since the old man was gazing the sea on the deck alone, I approached and called him.

“Excuse me... old man. Everyone is just afraid but they don’t dislike you. Please don’t mind about it.” (Beowulf)

“What are you talking about, youngster? I was thinking that the monster was delicious. It was a rare monster, and I should pick the tentacles up as much as possible. It is regrettable.” (Tousen)

“...” (Beowulf)

...Yeah.

It seemed better not to mind when this person was thinking like that.

Anyway, let’s arrange the thought. Since he said he wasn’t sleepy anymore, it seemed that I could achieve my purpose this time.

First, I should start with the topic of Reus being the disciple of this old man, and when I was thinking how to start the conversation, the old man turned face to me.

“Youngster. Your swordsmanship... could it be the [Phantom Sword]?” (Tousen)

“Aah... yes. My father is... the Sword Saint.” (Beowulf)

“...Is that so? I see.” (Tousen)

“You are the Strongest Sword, Lior-sama, right?” (Beowulf)

“...Yes. But, I am not the Strongest Sword, Lior, now. I am Ikki-Tousen. I am just an old man who pursues strength.” (Lior)

Although Lior-san talked as if he was a defeated man, he was smiling and talking proudly for some reason.

I wanted to say that he was joking, but... I could somehow understand why. I understood because I could fight.

Lior-san was surely... to Sirius-san... but it wasn't possible for me to win.

For that reason, since he became interested when I told about Sirius-san, I told everything that happened during the Fighting Festival.

“You're his friend, huh... speak freely.” (Lior)

“No, I'm not asking you to teach me. I would like you to tell me the final moment of my father...” (Beowulf)

“Wait a moment, I want to hear something before that.” (Lior)

“What is it?” (Beowulf)

Since he was asking to the point of interrupting my question, I guessed that it was considerably important.

“The Silver Wolf-kin girl who was close to him... Was she fine?” (Lior)

“...Girl? The boy is Reus-kun?” (Beowulf)

“The boy doesn't matter. It's Emilia. Tell me about that girl who look like a cute grandchild.” (Lior)

“Uhhh... she is fine. She seems to be Sirius-san's lover, and she is quite clingy.” (Beowulf)

“Is that so? If she's fine, it's all good. However... she is that guy's lover is it? If it is true, there is no problem then, but... I'm so jealous when he is with Emilia!” (Lior)

...Why, Emilia?

Although there were many mysterious, this was how I met the Strongest

Sword, Lior... no, Ikki-Tousen.

—

### Extra

Misunderstanding, Beowulf-kun.

“Excuse me... the girl, Emilia, was still young, so with Tousen-san’s age, it is a bit...” (Beowulf)

“Youngster. Are you thinking that I am interested in young girls?” (Lior)

“N-no, no! I mean...” (Beowulf)

“Really? You’re not thinking even a single fragment, right? Be honest... or I will slice you.” (Lior)

“...I thought of it for a moment.” (Beowulf)

“Alright, let’s have a mock battle to see your strength. It will not end until one of us dies.” (Lior)

“Do you really mean that!?” (Beowulf)

—

TLN: The author writes this as a supplementary explanation.

- The [Hard Break] of ‘Single Strike Ultimate Destruction Sword Style’

Currently, it was classified as the ultimate technique among the ‘Single Strike Ultimate Destruction Sword Style’ techniques.

To be brief, it was similar to [Strong Heaven] and it was merely swinging down of the sword, but the sword that was loaded with mana, fighting spirit and determination could slice up to hundreds of meters ahead.

The appearance was like a laser being swung down.

It was like that at the moment, but it was still developing and it would evolve further... maybe.

- The reason why Lior was sleepy.

With the money earned by annihilating bandits, he made uproar by drinking and eating in the port town, and he got onboard the ship in a sleepless night condition.

If you get close when he wakes up, you need to be caution since he swings the sword, but it doesn't fall with the reach.

It is better to prick him with a stick or call from a great distant.

Since he will unleashed [Shattering Strikes] by chance, just give up if you get involved.

He is an old man who does as he pleases, so it is better to let him sleep when he wants to sleep and wait until he wakes up by himself.

As for the exception, if it is with Emilia's voice, it will be completely safe.

He was an advanced adventurer who was quite famous in the adventurer guild. He was overconfident with his strength and got carried away, so he became a pirate with four people who were his colleagues when he was adventurers.

He held strength to the point of being arrogant, and he was actually better than Lior when it came to pure strength.

However, because there were a lot missing like readiness, determination and techniques, he was killed by Lior.

- Black's Four Heavenly Kings

The companions from the time when Black was adventurers.

It was an exaggerated name, but everyone was as strong as an intermediate adventurer.

- The spear, Jio—... (The name was not said until the end.)

He was a man with tremendous handling in spear, but he was killed by Lior...  
*make a hand gesture of praying.*

- The man with an ax. (The name wasn't mentioned.)



A man who was treated as Black's younger brother. However, during the long introductory, he was... blown off.

- He approached Lior from the back, and...

Although he was good at surprise attack with a knife, he was done by Lior...

- He was cut down by Beowulf...

Pretty much...

The appearance image was a kraken with countless tentacles... or rather a squid.

It had countless legs and fast regenerative ability, but it was cut by 'Single Strike Ultimate Destruction Sword Style'.

It wasn't the only one in the kind, but there were some of them here and there around the world.

—

TLN:

- Changing names of Lior in the conversation from 'L???' to Tousen and lastly to Lior just because this chapter is based on Beowulf's perspective.